

371-10
PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

AT

ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

HELD AT

*St. Thomas, 8th August, A. L. 5898, Picton,
11th August, A. L. 5898, Marmora,
13th June A. L. 5899, and Max-
ville, 14th June A. L. 5899.*

ALSO AT THE

FORTY - FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

HELD IN THE CITY OF OTTAWA,

ON THE

19th and 20th July A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.



The Property of and Ordered to be Read in all Lodges and Preserved.

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SPECTATOR PRINTING CO., LIMITED.

1899.



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M. W. BRO. T. D. HARINGTON,
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GRAND MASTER 1864-65.



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GRAND MASTER 1868-69-70.



M. W. BRO. JAMES SEYMOUR,
GRAND MASTER 1871.

73708



PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

AT

ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY

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11th August, A. L. 5898, Marmora,
13th June A. L. 5899, and Max-
ville, 14th June A. L. 5899.*

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HAMILTON :
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1899.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

*At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M.
of Canada, held in the City of St. Thomas, on Monday, 8th August,
A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.*

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Sam'l Dubber	D. D. G. M., London District.
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal	D. D. G. M., Niagara District.
R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. L. Slater	as Grand Junior Warden.
W. Bro. Joseph Potts	as Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. Robert McKay	as Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. F. Guest, M. D.	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. D. McColl	as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. C. W. Glasgow	as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. John Midgley	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. L. D. Mells	as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. Charles Roe	as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. E. T. Essary	as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. C. Scraace, Sr.	as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. M. Campbell	as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. W. E. Idsardi	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. H. McKillop	
W. Bro. G. A. Marlatt, M. D.	
W. Bro. J. Ball	
W. Bro. F. R. Else	
W. Bro. C. Scraace, Jr.	
W. Bro. Geo. Youell	
W. Bro. J. A. Sherman	
W. Bro. A. C. McIntyre	}
W. Bro. J. S. Fraser	
W. Bro. D. Ferguson	} as Grand Tyler.
Bro. George Cochrane	

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren calling from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new City Buildings.

The brethren actng as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of V. W. Bro. John Midgley, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Eighth Day of August, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, in the Sixty-Second year of the reign of Our Gracious Sovereign.

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

The EARL OF ABERDEEN, being Governor-General of Canada.

The Hon. SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Hon. ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

FREDERICK W. WRIGHT, being Mayor of the City of St. Thomas.

M. W. Bro. ELIAS TALBOT MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. and A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

R. W. Bro. SAMUEL DUBBER, D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District.

This Corner Stone

OF THE ST. THOMAS CITY HALL

was laid by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and of citizens of St. Thomas and County of Elgin.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION, ST. THOMAS, 1899.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Subsequently a complimentary banquet was tendered to the M. W. the Grand Master, officers and members of the Grand Lodge at the Grand Central Hotel.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

*An Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of
Canada, held at the Town of Picton, on Thursday, 11th August,
A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.*

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.....	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford, D.D. G.M.,	as Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. T. H. Thornton	as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon.....	as Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews.....	Grand Chaplain.
R. W. Bro. Rev. W. T. Wilkins.....	as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. Wm. Smeaton	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. A. G. McDonald.....	as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. W. T. Shaw	as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. G. L. Hough.....	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. W. H. Smith	as Asst. Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. E. W. Case.....	as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. H. Murney	as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. A. C. Bowerman	as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. J. G. Johnston.....	as Asst. Grand Organist
W. Bro. B. H. Young.....	as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. W. R. Leavens.....	} as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. Jas. H. Colden.....	
W. Bro. W. W. Fitzgerald	
W. Bro. R. A. Williamson	
W. Bro. F. A. Burlingham.....	
W. Bro. E. A. Morden.....	
W. Bro. C. C. Spencer	
W. Bro. W. Moore.....	
W. Bro. Hugh McCullough.....	}
W. Bro. G. N. Rose	
V. W. Bro. John Newton	
W. Bro. F. E. O'Flynn	as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren
hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented,
the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 11
o'clock a.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the
Grand Master, who announced that this special commu-
nication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose
of laying the foundation stone of the (First) Methodist
Church.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having
received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was

called off, and a procession formed under the direction of W. Bro. G. L. Hough, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Eleventh Day of August, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, the Sixty-first year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign,

Uictoria.

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Africa, Australlia, Dominion of Canada, etc.,

His Excellency the Right Honorable JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen.
Being Governor-General of Canada.

The Honorable SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Honorable SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Honorable ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario

The Reverend A. CARMAN, D D., being President of the General Conference.

The Reverend BRO. T. W. JOLLIFFE, being President of the Bay of Quinte Conference.

The Reverend J. W. JOLLIFFE, B. C. L., being Pastor of the First Methodist Church at Picton.

W. C. KILLIP, being Warden of the County of Prince Edward.
JAMES A. CLAPP, being Mayor of the Town of Picton.

The following being the Trustee Board of the First Methodist Church at Picton:

Rev. W. J. Jolliffe, B. C. L.....	Chairman.
C. S. Wilson.....	Treasurer.
W. H. R. Allison.....	Secretary.
A. D. Platt.....	Assistant Secretary.
W. J. Porte,	H. W. Branscombe,
S. M. Conger,	G. W. McMullen,
J. N. Walt,	John Laird,
W. H. Williamson,	G. E. Vandusen,
D. A. Thompson,	M. R. German.

Most Worshipful Brother E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the Province of Ontario.

Right Worshipful Brother H. G. STAFFORD, District Deputy Grand Master of the Prince Edward Thirteenth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH,

at Picton was laid by M. W. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and by Prince Edward Lodge No. 18, G. R. C., of which W. Bro. R. H. Hubbs is W.M., and in the presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of the town of Picton and surrounding localities.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A handsome silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by the Rev. J. W. Jolliffe, B. C. L., Pastor of the church, on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Marmora, on Tuesday, 13th day of June, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.....	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford, D. D. G. M.,	as Deputy Grand Master.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson.....	as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro the Rev. W. T. Wilkins.....	as Grand Chaplain.
W. Bro. H. S. Ferguson	as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. G. B. Bleecker.....	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. T. Mawson	as Grand Junior Deacon.
Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell	as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. R. B. Proutt.....	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. R. Orr	as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. B. Lott.....	as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. A. H. Watson.....	as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. W. C. Boardman.....	as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. G. Bedford	as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. B. O. Becker.....	
W. Bro. J. Dorricott	
W. Bro. A. K. McLeod	
Bro. A. Carscallen, M. P.....	as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. John McWilliams.....	
W. Bro. S. Simmons	
W. Bro. T. H. Cummings ..	
Bro. A. Kennedy	as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masers, Past Masters and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

The constitutional number of lodges being represented, Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 11 o'clock forenoon, in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church in Marmora.

The Reeve of the township of Marmora and members of the Township Council were announced and introduced and the Reeve read the following

ADDRESS.

To E. T. Malone, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR,—

It is with feelings of the sincerest pleasure and pride that I, as Reeve of the Townships of Marmora and Lake, on behalf of the Council and citizens, extend to you now a most hearty welcome to the village of Marmora.

Our village until a few years ago was the center of one of the most extensive lumbering districts in the Province of Ontario. Now, however, the supply of timber is almost exhausted. At present the mining industry is flourishing, the iron mines are beginning to work in consequence of the boom in the iron trade; and at least two of our gold mining companies are working day and night turning out regularly fine bricks of the precious metal. I hope you will have the privilege of inspecting them while here.

Our village may seem small to you coming from the city of Toronto; but when I mention a small bit of Masonic history you will see that when Marmora village was founded Toronto was not very extensive. At the time Morgan was creating some excitement, I cannot tell the exact date, some seventy-five or eighty years ago, there was a meeting of the craft called at New York for the purpose of taking his case in consideration. A delegate attended that meeting from Marmora. He recommended that Morgan be kept on a farm in the back woods of Canada—the farm I now occupy—not a very hard sentence if it had been carried out.

As a member of the craft myself, it gives me great pleasure to have you with us to-day to assist in laying the cornerstone of this nice little church, and if at some future time you would like to spend a few weeks on our magnificent rivers and lakes, you may depend on a warm reception from the citizens of Marmora.

WILLIAM HILTON, Reeve.

WILLIAM BONTER,

JAS. H. WARREN.

An address was also presented to the M. W. the Grand Master by the W. M. and officers of Marmora Lodge, No. 222.

To both addresses the M. W. the Grand Master made suitable responses.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, Grand Lodge was called off and a procession formed under the direction of W. Bro. R. B. Proutt, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

R. W. Bro. the Rev. W. T. Wilkins, acting Grand Chaplain, then asked a blessing, and Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, acting Grand Superintendent of Works, read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Thirteenth Day of June, A.D. 1899, A.L. 5899, the Sixty-Second year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

His Excellency the Right Honorable SIR GILBERT JOHN ELLIOTT MURRAY-KYNNYMOND, Earl of Minto, etc., being Governor-General of Canada.

The Honorable SIR OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Right Honorable SIR WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Honorable ARTHUR S. HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

A. W. CARSCALLEN, M. P., and W. J. ALLEN, M. P. P., being Representatives for North Hastings.

Reverend JOHN C. INKSTER, B. A., being Pastor in charge.
Reverend ROBERT TORRANCE, D. D., being Moderator of the General Assembly.

ROBERT MITCHELL, JAMES PARKER, B. A., GEORGE MACQUEEN, THOMAS THOMPSON.
Building Committee.

JAMES ENGLISH, being Warden of the County of Hastings.
WILLIAM HILTON, being Reeve of Municipality of Marmora and Lake.

M. W. BRO. E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

R. W. BRO. H. G. STAFFORD, D. D. G. M. of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MARMORA.

was laid by M. W. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers, and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of the County of Hastings.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A handsome silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by the Rev. John G. Inkster, B. A., Pastor of the church.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Marville, 14th day of June, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. George Rook.....	as Grand Master.
W. Bro. John Ridley.....	as Deputy Grand Master.
W. Bro. W. A. Chamberlain.....	as Grand Senior Warden.
Bro. M. L. Stewart.....	as Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. A. D. McIntyre	as Grand Chaplain.
Bro. T. W. Munroe.....	as Grand Treasurer.
Bro. E. J. McEwen.....	as Grand Registrar.
W. Bro. A. F. Robertson.....	as Grand Secretary.
Bro. C. H. Wood	as Grand Senior Deacon.
Bro. J. Hoople	as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. S. Henry.....	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
Bro. Wm. Hill	as Grand Pursuivant.
V. W. Bro. John Smith.....	as Grand Stewards.
W. Bro. James Faulkner.....	
W. Bro. M. D. Carther	
W. Bro. G. W. Shepherd	
W. Bro. Wm. Gibbons.....	
W. Bro. — Dunkin	as Grand Tyler.
Bro. A. A. Sproule.....	

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 10:15 o'clock a.m., in the Masonic Hall, by the acting Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Presbyterian Church.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of V. W. Bro. S. Henry, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the Fourteenth Day of June, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-nine, the Sixty-second year of the reign of our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies of Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

THE EARL OF MINTO, being Governor-General of Canada.

Sir OLIVER MOWAT, being Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

HON. A. S. HARDY, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

R. R. McLENNAN, M.P., being member for the County.

Reverend ROBERT TORRANCE, Moderator of the General Assembly.

D. T. CAMERON, being Reeve.

M. W. Bro. E. T. MALONE, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

GEO. ROOK, D. D. G. M. of the Fifteenth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone,

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MAXVILLE.

was laid by R. W. Bro. Geo. Rook, D. D. G. M., assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of Maxville and vicinity.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The R. W. the acting Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then re-formed, the brethren re-

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION, MAXVILLE, 5899. 15

turned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS.

At the Forty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, held in the City of Ottawa, commencing on Wednesday, the 19th day of July, A. D. 1899, A. L. 5899.

PRESENT :

THE GRAND MASTER,

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone on the Throne.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. the Rev. D. F. Bogert	as Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. C. J. Hohl	Grand Senior Deacon.
V. W. Bro. W. Borthwick	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. James Farrington	as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. J. A. Devitt	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. S. Tomlinson	Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. James Elliott	as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. E. Findlay	as Grand Sword Bearer.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson	Grand Pursuivant.
V. W. Bro. John D. Dewar	Grand Stewards.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Wyness	
V. W. Bro. F. A. Latahaw	
V. W. Bro. John Smith	
V. W. Bro. W. E. Foote	
V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont	
W. Bro. T. M. Davis	
W. Bro. S. A. Luke	
W. Bro. W. Northwood	
W. Bro. W. H. Baldwin	
W. Bro. L. B. Scott	
W. Bro. M. Birkett	
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw	as Grand Standard Bearer.
Bro. John Sweetman	Grand Tyler.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION. OTTAWA, 5899. 17

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, M. D.	Erie	District No. 1
R. W. Bro. Arch'd Weir.	St. Clair	" 2
R. W. Bro. Sam'l Dubber.	London	" 3
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney.	South Huron	" 4
R. W. Bro. Wm. Irwin.	North Huron	" 5
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler.	Wilson	" 6
R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart.	Wellington	" 7
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed.	Hamilton	" 8
R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan.	Georgian	" 9
R. W. Bro. John A. Hoshal.	Niagara	" 10
R. W. Bro. Curran McK. Morrison.	Toronto West	" 11
R. W. Bro. James Glauville.	Toronto East	" 11a
R. W. Bro. James Evans.	Ontario	" 12
R. W. Bro. H. G. Stafford.	Prince Edward	" 13
R. W. Bro. L. S. Lewis.	Frontenac	" 14
R. W. Bro. George Rook.	St. Lawrence	" 15
R. W. Bro. George S. May.	Ottawa	" 16
R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall.	Algoma	" 17
R. W. Bro. Richard Mills.	Nipissing	" 18

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

FROM GRAND LODGE OF

M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson.	England.
R. W. Bro. Robt. McKnight.	Prince Edward Island.
R. W. Bro. D. D. Campbell.	New South Wales.
R. W. Bro. L. Secord, M. D.	New Zealand.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt.	South Australia.
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson.	Victoria.
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed.	Alabama.
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler.	Arkansas.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.	Connecticut.
M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, Q. C.	District of Columbia.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason.	Florida.
M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C.	Georgia.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.	Indiana.
R. W. Bro. W. G. Reid.	Kansas.
R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt.	Louisiana.
R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite.	Maine.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.	Michigan.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.	Minnesota.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.	Missouri.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf.	Nebraska.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.	New Jersey.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea.	New Mexico.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.	New York.
R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar.	North Dakota.
R. W. Bro. David Taylor.	Oregon.
M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.	South Dakota.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.	Texas.
M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Q. C.	Utah.
R. W. Bro. Dewitt H. Martyn, M. D.	Vermont.
R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q. C.	West Virginia.
R. W. Bro. Henry Rush.	Wisconsin.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.	Brazil.
M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C.	Peru.
R. W. Bro. John Walsh.	U. States of Columbia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, J. K. Kerr, Q. C., Hugh Murray, Hy. Robertson, Q. C., R. T. Walkem, Q. C., J. Ross Robertson, W. R. White, Q. C., and Wm. Gibson.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—John Menish, W. J. Simpson, A. R. Hargraft, E. Abbott Johnston, Aubrey White, G. J. Bennett, Wm. Roaf, R. L. Gunn, O. Bascom, J. Burch. T. McCallum, John Malloy, W. G. Reid, R. W. Stephen, J. B. Nixon, R. McKnight, W. T. Toner, D. H. Martyn, D. F. Macwatt, R. E. Wood, J. F. Graham, J. G. Liddell, D. Barr, Henry Pringle, J. H. Burritt, G. E. Josephs, G. A. Aylesworth, R. W. Longmore, T. R. Atkinson, Wm. Rea, E. B. Butterworth, David Taylor, A. E. Cooper, John Sinclair, P. W. D. Brodrick, John McLaren, D. D. Campbell, R. Mahoney, A. G. Campbell, W. B. Sanders, Hugh Hyndman, J. E. Harding, J. A. Macfadden, J. H. Knifton, W. C. Harris, Wm. Kennedy Isaac Huber, I. P. Willson, James Walmsley, W. I. Bradley and W. H. Burgess.

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS.—James Sutherland, G. R. Vanzant, Jas. McLauchlan, L. Secord, Benjamin Allen and Allan McLean.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS.—A. B. Greer, Le F. A. Maingy, Fred. Cook and John S. Dewar.

PAST GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Rev. D. F. Bogert,

PAST GRAND SENIOR DEACON.—Thomas Beattie.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR DEACONS.—R. W. Kenning, J. C. Kearns and C. A. Kingston.

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF WORKS.—Robert Buck and C. F. Mansell.

PAST GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—H. P. Macdonell and Hugh Hyndman, Jr.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND ORGANIST. Geo. Gott.

PAST GRAND PURSUIVANT.—John Newton and J. J. Smythe.

PAST GRAND STEWARDS.—A. Shaw, S. Beaumont, Peter Toll, Wm. McGowan, James McNeil, E. J. Voss, John Hall, John Irwin and Sam'l Henry.

PAST GRAND STANDARD BEARER.—W. J. McAllister.

Before the opening of Grand Lodge, His Worship Mayor Payment and members of the City Council were announced, introduced and read the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

OTTAWA, 19th July, 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada:

Grand Master and Gentlemen—

As Mayor of Ottawa, the pleasing duty devolves upon me of bidding you welcome to our city. Not only is it a duty, but I esteem it also, gentlemen, as a very high privilege, and on behalf of our citizens can confidently assure you of a hearty welcome, and of the pleasure which it will afford them to unite in making your visit a pleasant one, and, let me hope, a profitable one as well.

It is unnecessary for me to say much in the way of commendation of your Order. Its principles are well known and speak for themselves. Is it truth we are in search of? If so, we find it there. Is it charity? It is there also, in the widest and most extended sense. Is it brotherly love? We find it there. Is it mutual help and aid in times of trial or distress? Where shall we find it carried out more fully than in the daily practice of the Order. In a word, we recognize that both its principles and practice are founded on and exemplified by the highest moral and social virtues, carried on and illustrated in the daily life and conduct of your members.

Founded back in the Middle ages, you can claim for your Order an antiquity second to none. In its extent and ramifications, it is world wide, and in your membership you can justly claim a large representation of the noblest and best in every rank in life of the human race.

With such credentials as these—your principles, your antiquity, your universality, and your high personal individuality your welcome everywhere can never fail in being a hearty one.

Gentlemen, we are proud to have you here. Amongst the many gatherings with which we have been favored in the past, this one of yours occupies a foremost place. We welcome you to our fair city, to our homes and to our hearts, and in as far as lies in our power, no effort shall be spared to make your visit an agreeable one. While pleasant, we trust that it may also prove profitable, and that the business now to be transacted may prove of lasting benefit to your Order. We trust also that your individual and personal enjoyment may be such that you will thereby be induced, in the not distant future to return again, and that in the interim all your memories of Ottawa and its citizens will be of days happily spent in healthful enjoyment and duties well and faithfully performed.

F. PAYMENT,

Mayor of Ottawa.

The M. W. the Grand Master, having made a suitable response, and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 12 o'clock noon, and the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon the proceedings.

A deputation of Masters from the Ottawa lodges were announced, introduced and presented to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME :

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in Ontario.

To-day, brethren, you convene in the Capital of Canada in the Forty-fourth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

The brethren of Ottawa extend to you all hearty welcome and fraternal greeting, and congratulate you upon the general prosperity of the craft within the jurisdiction.

Upon your late visit, Most Worshipful Sir, we had the pleasure of listening to your eloquent words, which made a deep impression upon those who heard them. We are gratified that your first presidency over Grand Lodge occurs in Ottawa. We have every confidence that, like your predecessors, you will rule wisely and well, and that, as did they, you will enjoy the esteem and affection of the members of the honorable and noble fraternity of which you are now the respected Grand Master.

We congratulate the members of Grand Lodge upon the fact that their visit is paid when the Federal Parliament is in session. In addition to renewing old friendships, you will have the opportunity of meeting eminent Craftsmen from other jurisdictions and of making lasting friendships which, we trust, will be mutually profitable.

The citizens of Ottawa, we are assured, will afford to the members of Grand Lodge every means of seeing the many interesting places within and adjacent to our rapidly growing city.

We trust and believe, brethren, that your gathering will not only be pleasant and agreeable to you, but also in the highest degree promotive of the best interests and rapid advancement of the institution we all love so much.

May you be guided by the Great Architect of the Universe to devise plans for our future that, building on them wisely, we may more fully than in the past exemplify the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love.

Signed on behalf of the brethren of Ottawa.

GEO. S. MAY, D. D. G. M., Ottawa District, No. 16.

JAS. PARRINGTON, W. M., Dalhousie, No. 52.

J. ALEX. ARMSTRONG, W. M., Doric, No. 58.

LOCKBURN B. SCOTT, W. M., Civil Service, No. 148.

W. J. SYKES, W. M., The Builders, No. 177.

J. A. DEVITT, W. M., Fidelity, No. 231.

JAS. ELLIOTT, W. M., Chaudiere, No. 264.

E. J. L. GALLAHER, W. M., Prince of Wales, No. 371.

Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

The M. W. the Grand Master expressed himself as being highly gratified with the reception given to him and to the Grand Lodge by the officers and members of the Ottawa lodges.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

M. W. Bros. Benjamin Tooke, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec; T. B. Flint, G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; J. V. Ellis, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge

of New Brunswick; D. C. Fraser, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and the Hon. John Yeo, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and V. W. Bros. Baird, P. G. S. B. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; W. H. Whyte, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and A. Howard, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, were announced, introduced and welcomed with grand honors.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS OF REGRET.

Letters and telegrams expressing regret at being unable to attend the annual communication were read from M. W. Bros. Kivas Tully and the Hon. J. M. Gibson, of the Grand Lodge of Canada; W. D. Pownell, G. M., and W. A. Sutherland, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New York; and from W. Bro. E. M. L. Ehlers, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York.

GREETINGS FROM ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, NO. 10, Q. R.

The following telegram was received and read:

Montreal, Que., July 18, 1899.

St. George's Lodge, No. 10, meeting to-night, extend fraternal greeting to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and trust your good self and our Most Worshipful Brother, William Gibson, may long be spared to attend similar communications.

J. D. HUDSON, Master.

The M. W. the Grand Master granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last annual communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Forty-third Annual Communication, held in the City of Toronto, on the 20th and 21st days of July, A. D. 1898, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to subordinate lodges, the same be considered as read, and be now confirmed, and that the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

COMMITTEE OF CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bros. Wm. Roaf and P. W. D. Brodrick, and W. Bros. L. B. Scott and J. A. Devitt, the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from lodges, reported the following as being present:

- No. 2. Niagara, Niagara.*
W. Bro. W. E. Lyall, W. M.
- No. 3. The Ancient St. John's, Kingston.*
W. Bro. W. B. Dalton, W. M.
- No. 5. Sussex, Brockville.*
W. Bro. J. C. Stag, W. M.; R. W. Bros. John Menish and W. J. Simpson, P. M's.
- No. 6. The Barton, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. J. P. Steedman, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson and R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, P. M's.
- No. 7. Union, Grimsby.*
W. Bros. A. C. Cole, W. M.; R. Lipsit, P. M.
- No. 10. Norfolk, Simcoe.*
W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley, W. M.; R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, P. M.
- No. 11. Moira, Belleville.*
W. Bro. W. S. Morden, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. D. F. Bogert; V. W. Bro. John Newton; W. Bros. W. Latimer and Wm. Docter, P. M's.
- No. 14. True Britons, Perth.*
W. Bro. D. G. MacMartin, W. M.; Bros. J. M. Balderson, S. W.; R. E. Hicks, J. W.
- No. 16. St. Andrew's, Toronto.*
R. W. Bro. James Glanville and W. Bro. J. E. Hansford, P. M's.
- No. 17. St. John's, Cobourg.*
V. W. Bro. Robt. Buck, P. M. and Proxy; R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, P. M.
- No. 18. Prince Edward, Picton.*
W. Bros. Delos Spafford, W. M.; J. H. Colden, P. M.
- No. 20. St. John's, London.*
W. Bro. J. S. Shaw, P. M.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Greer, P. M.
- No. 21a. St. John's, Vankleek Hill.*
W. Bro. A. F. Robertson, W. M.; Bro. H. C. Jones, S. W.; R. W. Bro. E. A. Johnston and W. Bro. G. A. Fitzpatrick, P. M's.
- No. 22. King Solomon's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. A. Lyon, P. M. and Proxy; M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, P. M.
- No. 23. Richmond, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bros. E. A. Coombs, W. M.; H. A. Nicholls, P. M.

- No. 24. St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bros. R. Craig, W. M.; W. Hyndman and A. F. Foster, P. M's.
- No. 25. Ionic, Toronto.*
Bro. A. P. Burritt, J. W.; M. W. Bros. J. K. Kerr and W. R. White; R. W. Bros. Aubrey White, G. J. Bennett, C. W. Postlethwaite and Wm. Roaf; W. Bros. E. B. Brown, W. Barwick, H. H. Williams and W. J. Eakins, P. M's.
- No. 26. Ontario, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. the Rev. G. H. Broughall, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Evans, P. M.
- No. 27. Strict Observance, Hamilton.*
Bro. W. E. La Chance, J. W.; R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason and R. L. Gunn; W. Bro. T. M. Davis, P. M's.
- No. 28. Mount Zion, Kemptville.*
R. W. Bro. O. Bascom, P. M.
- No. 29. United, Brighton.*
W. Bros. B. C. H. Becker, W. M.; A. K. McLeod, P. M.
- No. 30. Composite, Whitby.*
W. Bro. John Burns, W. M.
- No. 31. Jerusalem, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. D. B. Simpson, W. M.
- No. 32. Amity, Dunnville.*
W. Bro. G. D. Robertson, W. M.
- No. 33. Maitland, Goderich.*
W. Bros. Geo. Porter, W. M.; Bro. W. D. Tye, S. W.; Rev. Bro. J. Beck, P. M.
- No. 34. Thistle, Amerstburg.*
V. W. Bro. G. W. Gott, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 35. St. John's, Cayuga.*
R. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 37. King Hiram, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. C. A. Choate, W. M.
- No. 38. Trent, Trenton.*
W. Bros. J. D. Rowe, W. M.; John Coleman, P. M.
- No. 39. Mount Zion, Brooklyn.*
W. Bro. Wm. Smith, W. M.
- No. 40. St. John's, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. P. A. Sommerville, W. M.; Bro. J. T. Crawford, S. W.; R. W. Bros. Thos. McCallum, John Malloy and G. Reid; V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister and W. Bros. Wm. Birrell and J. E. Riddell, P. M's.
- No. 41. St. George's, Kingsville.*
W. Bro. C. Koellin, W. M.
- No. 42. St. George's, London.*
W. Bros. M. W. Althouse, W. M.; Wm. Hayman and John Blanch, P. M's.

- No. 43. King Solomon's, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. A. McGachle, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 44. St. Thomas, St. Thomas.*
R. W. Bro. S. Dubber, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 46. Wellington, Chatham.*
Bro. J. S. Turner, S. W.
- No. 47. Great Western, Windsor*
W. Bro. D. L. Carley, W. M.; Bros. G. E. White, S. W.;
S. Buchanan, J. W.
- No. 48. Madoc, Madoc.*
W. Bro. C. H. Tumuelty, W. M.
- No. 50. Consecon, Consecon.*
W. Bro. D. H. Rowe, W. M.
- No. 52. Dalhousie, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. James Parrington, W. M.; Bros. S. C. Thompson, S. W.; W. H. Sproule, J. W.; R. W. Bro. G. S. May
and W. Bros. W. G. S. Reynolds, Miles Birkett, C. S.
Scott, S. Maynard Rogers, J. H. Salmon and Rev. W. L.
Scott, P. Ms.
- No. 54. Vaughan, Maple.*
Bro. J. A. McDonald, S. W.
- No. 55. Merrickville, Merrickville.*
Bro. B. Mosher, J. W.; W. Bros. C. H. Tate, R. W.
Watchorn and G. B. Magee, P. M's.
- No. 56. Victoria, Sarnia.*
R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Proxy.
- No. 57. Harmony, Binbrook.*
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, Proxy.
- No. 58. Doric, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. J. A. Armstrong, W. M.; Bro. John Storr, J. W.;
R. W. Bro. R. W. Stephen; V. W. Bro. J. J. Smythe and
W. Bros. John Robertson, S. A. Luke, C. A. Abbott, W.
H. Baldwin, A. Pratt, W. H. Martin, Wm. Smith and W.
J. Kidd, P. Ms.
- No. 61. Acacia, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. R. V. Mathews, P. M. and Proxy; M. W. Bro.
Hugh Murray and W. Bros. J. D. Clarke, H. S. Wallace,
and John Nicholl, P. Ms.
- No. 63. St. John's, Carleton Place.*
W. Bros. A. S. Gorrell, W. M.; W. R. Williamson and D.
H. McIntosh, P. Ms.
- No. 64. Kilwinning, London.*
W. Bros. L. W. Scandrett, W. M.; A. A. Campbell and
E. Gardiner, P. M's.
- No. 65. Rehoboam, Toronto.*
W. Bro. D. Hoskins, W. M.; Bro. E. H. Briggs, S. W.;
R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon; W. Bros. A. Dinnis, F. Arm-
strong, E. F. Clarke and W. J. Graham, P. M's.

- No. 68. *St. John's, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. A. Rose, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, P. M.
- No. 69. *Stirling, Stirling.*
W. Bros. A. Chard, P. M. and Proxy; B. O. Lott, P. M.
- No. 72. *Alma, Galt.*
R. W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, Proxy.
- No. 73. *St. James, St. Marys.*
W. Bro. J. R. Stewart, Proxy.
- No. 74. *St. James, Bethel.*
W. Bro. Robert Edwards, W. M.
- No. 75. *St. John's, Toronto.*
V. W. Bro. Jos. Thompson, P. M. and Proxy; W. Bros. C. Matthews and Spencer Love, P. M's.
- No. 76. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. Rev. J. C. Farthing, W. M.; R. W. Bro. James Sutherland; W. Bros. H. J. Finkle and James McLurg, P. M's.
- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren, Lindsay.*
Bro. Andrew Williamson, S. W.
- No. 78. *King Hiram, Tilsonburg.*
W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley, Proxy.
- No. 79. *Simcoe, Bradford.*
W. Bro. Alvin Orton, W. M.
- No. 81. *St. John's, Mount Brydges.*
R. W. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
- No. 82. *St. John's, Paris.*
W. Bro. James Smiley, Proxy.
- No. 83. *Beaver, Strathroy.*
W. Bro. John Robertson, W. M.
- No. 84. *Clinton, Clinton.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Proxy.
- No. 86. *Wilson, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. J. Gee, W. M.
- No. 87. *Markham Union, Markham.*
W. Bro. J. B. Gould, W. M.; R. W. Bro. G. R. Van Zant;
W. Bro. R. J. Green, P. M's.
- No. 88. *St. George's, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bros. J. McLaughlan, P. M. and Proxy; R. McKnight, P. M.
- No. 90. *Manitou, Collingwood.*
W. Bro. Daniel Wilson, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson and R. W. Bro. W. T. Toner, P. M's.
- No. 91. *Colborne, Colborne.*
W. Bro. W. Bellamy, W. M.; Bro. B. M. Jones, J. W.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui, Kingston.*
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw, P. M. and Proxy.

- No. 93. Northern Light, Kincardine.*
W. Bro. J. H. Scott, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn,
P. M.
- No. 94. St. Mark's, Port Stanley.*
R. W. Bro. S. Dubber, Proxy.
- No. 96. Corinthian, Barrie.*
W. Bro. A. Cowan, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt,
P. M.
- No. 97. Sharon, Sharon.*
W. Bro. J. T. Power, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 99. Tuscan, Newmarket.*
W. Bro. Alfred Webb, W. M.
- No. 100. Valley, Dundas.*
W. Bro. G. C. Wilson, W. M.; V. W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw,
P. M.
- No. 101. Corinthian, Peterboro.*
W. Bro. Mackay, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, P. M.
- No. 103. Maple Leaf, St. Catharines.*
Bro. B. J. Leubsdorf, S. W.
- No. 104. St. John's, Norwich.*
W. Bro. Robert, Grey, W. M.
- No. 106. Burford, Burford.*
W. Bro. David Secord, W. M.
- No. 107. St. Paul's, Lambeth.*
W. Bros. James Kelly, W. M.; J. W. Crinklaw, P. M.
- No. 108. Blenheim, Princeton.*
W. Bro. James Smiley, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 109. Albion, Haarrowsmith.*
W. Bro. A. Lockhart, W. M.
- No. 110. Central, Prescott.*
W. Bro. S. J. McClelland, W. M.; Bro. H. F. Deas, J. W.;
R. W. Bros. Geo. Rook, J. F. Graham; W. Bro. J. N.
Graham, P. M's.
- No. 113. Wilson, Waterford.*
W. Bro. D. S. Bale, W. M.
- No. 114. Hope, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. J. B. White, W. M.
- No. 115. Ivy, Beamsville.*
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 116. Cassia, Thedford.*
W. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, W. M.
- No. 119. Maple Leaf, Bath.*
W. Bro. Jos. Morgan, W. M.
- No. 120. Warren, Fingal.*
W. Bros. F. Guest, P. M. and Proxy; G. E. Casey, P. M.

- No. 121. Dorio, Brantford.*
W. Bro. W. H. Inglis, W. M.; R. W. Bros. L. Secord and J. G. Liddell and W. Bro. C. B. Heyd, P. M's.
- No. 122. Renfrew, Renfrew.*
W. Bro. D. A. Ward, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. Barr and W. Bros. T. R. Brownlee, W. A. Mackay, T. B. Muir, E. Mayhew, N. W. Cleary, James Craig and David Brownlee, P. M's.
- No. 123. The Belleville, Belleville.*
W. Bro. J. W. Johnson, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Henry Pringle, P. M.
- No. 125. Cornwall, Cornwall.*
W. Bros. J. G. Harkness, W. M.; J. Ridley, P. M.
- No. 128. Pembroke, Pembroke.*
W. Bro. J. Bodell, W. M.; Bro. A. Foster, J. W.; R. W. Bros. J. H. Burritt and Geo. E. Josephs; V. W. Bro. R. W. Kenning, and W. Bros. J. W. Leach, J. C. Stewart, G. D. Bayne, J. G. Forgie and Robert Russell, P. M's.
- No. 129. The Rising Sun, Aurora.*
W. Bro. James McClosky, P. M.
- No. 131. St. Lawrence, Southampton.*
W. Bros. D. Macauley, P. M. and Proxy; J. Johns P. M.
- No. 133. Lebanon Forest, Exeter.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Proxy.
- No. 136. Richardson, Stouffville.*
W. Bro. J. H. Gould, Proxy.
- No. 137. Pythagoras, Meaford.*
W. Bro. L. F. Boyd, W. M.; Bro. Rev. D. J. Caswell, S. W.
- No. 139. Lebanon, Oshawa.*
W. Bro. W. Dickie, S. W.
- No. 140. Malahide, Aylmer.*
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
- No. 143. Friendly Brothers, Iroquois.*
W. Bro. A. D. Harkness, P. M.
- No. 144. Tecumseh, Stratford.*
W. Bro. R. T. Harding, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney and W. Bro. J. R. Stewart, P. M's.
- No. 145. J. B. Hall, Millbrook.*
W. Bros. A. A. Smith, W. M.; W. T. Wood, P. M.
- No. 146. Prince of Wales, Neuburgh.*
W. Bro. Robert Guy, W. M.; R. W. Bros. G. A. Aylesworth and R. W. Longmore, P. M's.
- No. 147. Mississippi, Almonte.*
W. Bros. John Argue, W. M.; J. S. Coulter and W. C. Pollock, P. M's.

No. 148.

Civil Service, Ottawa.

W. Bro. L. B. Scott, W. M.; Bros. E. L. Horwood, S.W.;
E. B. Echlin, J. W.; R. W. Bros. John Walsh and Le F. A.
Maingy; V. W. Bros. H. P. Macdonell and E. S. Teetham
and W. Bros. E. L. Learoyd, N. L. Blair, C. H. Masters,
L. N. Coutlee, A. W. Harris, J. C. Saunders, S. C. D.
Roper, P. M's.

No. 149.

Erie, Port Dover.

R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, Proxy.

No. 151.

The Grand River, Berlin

W. Bro. A. Oelschlager, P. M., Proxy.

No. 153.

Burns, Wyoming.

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P. M's.

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No. 159.

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W. Bro. A. Jamieson, P. M.

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Burlington, Burlington.

Bro. W. T. Glover, S. W.

No. 166.

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W. Bro. J. C. Springstead, W. M.

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W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Proxy.

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W. Bro. John H. Reld, P. M., Proxy.

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W. Bro. F. Guest, Proxy.

No. 174.

Washingham, Port Rowan.

W. Bro. Joseph Bottomley, Proxy.

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- No. 194. *Petrolia, Petrolia.*
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ford, and P. W. D. Brodrick, V. W. Bro. Thomas Beattie
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W. Bro. Thomas Harris, W. M.
- No. 242. Macoy, Mallorytown.*
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- No. 243. St. George, St. George.*
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R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Proxy.
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R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, Proxy.
- No. 289. Doric, Lobo.*
V. W. Bro. J. D. Dewar, P. M., Proxy.
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W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, P. M.
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W. Bro. Alex. Cowan, Proxy.
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W. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, Proxy.
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W. Bro. George Porter, Proxy.
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V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont, Proxy.
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W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, P. M.
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- No. 326. *Zetland, Toronto.*
W. Bro. H. A. Taylor, P. M., Proxy; M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, V. W. Bros. C. F. Mansell and C. J. Hohl, and
W. Bros. W. J. L. Anderson and W. D. McPherson, P.M's.
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J. A. Macfadden, P. M's.
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R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Proxy.
- No. 334. *Prince Arthur, Arthur.*
W. Bro. Edward Burns, Proxy.
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W. Bro. Henry Bailey, W. M.
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W. Bros. J. E. Cohoe, W. M.; W. Shafley, P. M.
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W. Bros. John Jones, W. M.; Ira Bates, James MacFarlane,
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R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Proxy.
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W. Bro. A. L. Malone, P. M.

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W. Bro. Alfred A. Norton, W. M.
- No. 352. Granite, Parry Sound.*
W. Bro. Edwin Pirie, W. M.; Bro. J. A. Cryderman, J. W.;
R. W. Bro. J. H. Knifton, V. W. Bros. W. McGown and
W. E. Foote and W. Bros. Thomas McGown and James
Calder, P. M's.
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P. M.
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P. M.
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- No. 392. Huron, Camlachie.*
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- No. 393. Forest, Chesley.*
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- No. 398. Victoria, Kirkfield.*
W. Bro. W. L. Wood, P. M., Proxy.
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W. Bro. James C. Ford, W. M.
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- No. 404. Lorne, Tamworth.*
W. Bro. James M. Smith, P. M., Proxy.
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- No. 414. Pequonga, Rat Portage.*
W. Bro. Miles Birkett, Proxy.
- No. 415. Fort William, Fort William.*
R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 416. Lyn, Lyn.*
W. Bros. A. E. Cumming, P. M., Proxy, and G. W. Grant, P. M.
- No. 417. Kewatin, Kewatin.*
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Proxy.
- No. 418. Maxville, Maxville.*
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W. Bro. D. W. Mackenzie, W. M.

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and W. Bro. G. W. Liddle, P. M's.
- No. 421. *Scott, Grand Valley.*
W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston, W. M.
- No. 423. *Strong, Sundridge.*
W. Bro. W. D. Auldjo, P. M.
- No. 424. *Doric, Pickering.*
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- No. 425. *St. Clair, Sombra.*
W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Proxy.
- No. 426. *Stanley, Toronto Junction.*
R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, Proxy, and W. Bro. J. R.
Royce, P. M
- No. 429. *Port Elgin, Port Elgin.*
W. Bro. John George, W. M.
- No. 430. *Acacia, East Toronto.*
W. Bro. John Parsell, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 431. *Moravian, Eden Grove.*
W. Bro. Cecil W. Morrison, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 432. *Hanover, Hanover.*
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- No. 433. *Bonnechere, Eganville.*
W. Bro. H. J. Beatty, W. M.; Bro. A. Luloff, J. W.; W.
Bro. A. J. Sparling, P. M.
- No. 434. *Algonquin, Emsdale.*
Bro. W. L. B. Hamlin, J. W.
- No. 435. *Havelock, Havelock.*
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- No. 437. *Tuscan, Sarnia.*
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- No. 438. *Harmony, Toronto.*
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- No. 439. *Alexandria, Alexandria.*
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S. W.
- No. 440. *Arcadia, Minden.*
W. Bro. J. W. Watson, W. M.
- No. 441. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*
W. Bro. Robert Flegg, W. M.
- No. 444. *Nitetis, Creemore.*
W. Bro. W. S. Ellis, P. M., Proxy.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following address to the brethren assembled in Grand Communication :

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE,—

With emotions of gratitude and pleasure I extend to you my heartiest fraternal greeting as we assemble in this our Forty-Fourth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. We are gathered together from all parts of this much favored and prosperous Province, from every honorable calling and pursuit, to give an account of the past and to legislate for the future. May we in all our deliberations be careful that the integrity of the craft is conserved and the rights and privileges of the subordinate lodges respected.

I bring you tidings of peace and prosperity from all parts of the jurisdiction. Our lodges are in a flourishing condition; our craftsmen are engaged in works of love and charity; our financial returns will show an increase over that of any previous year, and our Grand Lodge is in cordial and fraternal relations with every legitimate Grand Lodge in the world. We are a favored people; our country is in a prosperous and peaceful condition with bright prospects for a continuation of such blessings. Let us therefore at the commencement of our labors return thanks to Almighty God for the abundant mercies bestowed upon us, and pray that the business of the session may be conducted under His watchful care.

In accordance with the requirements of the constitution it becomes my duty to render an account of my stewardship during the past year, to place before you such information as I may possess regarding the condition of the craft, and to submit for your consideration such subjects as in my opinion require your attention.

On entering upon the duties of the honorable and important office to which I was so unanimously elected one short year ago, I had many misgivings as to my ability to conduct the affairs of a Grand Lodge which occupies a leading position among the Grand Lodges of the civilized world, but the cordial support which I have received from every member of the craft with whom

I have come in contact; the ready acquiescence in all my rulings; the courtesy, love and kindness extended to me whenever I was permitted to visit my brethren, made the duties of the office one of love and pleasure.

I can assure you, brethren, that the responsibilities of the position are very great, and that a conscientious discharge of duty necessarily entails great sacrifices of time and money. An illustrious brother ably describes the situation as follows: "He who is selected to preside over the affairs of men in matters relating to their civil government has always an arduous and tedious task to perform, but much greater are the responsibilities of him who has been chosen to manage for a time the destiny, to preserve the integrity and keep inviolate the purity of the principles of a great moral institution like ours, which for centuries has wrought so potential an influence in advancing and preserving the civilization and enlightenment of the people of the earth." I can conscientiously say that whatever ability I possess has been earnestly devoted towards qualifying myself to fill acceptably the position of ruler of the craft. I have endeavored in my feeble way to teach the brethren, both by example and precept, to work at all times for the best interest of the fraternity. I am a firm believer in Masonry, its influence to elevate the moral tone of mankind, and its power to teach man his duty to his fellow man. It has therefore been my aim to impress my brethren with the necessity of giving to the world on all occasions practical proof of the benefit of the craft to humanity and its claim to an existence in this progressive and prosperous age. Lectures and discussions on the history and antiquity of the craft may be instructive and entertaining, but in my opinion for a Grand Master to be successful in his mission he must get close to the hearts of his brethren, indulge in plain, practical common sense talks, impress on his hearers that the success of the order depends upon individual conduct and effort, that it will be exalted in proportion to the manner in which its adherents exemplify the doctrine of love to God and love to man. I have learned much from my brethren. I trust I may have been of some assistance to them, and that our association may have been the means of adding strength to the craft and in demonstrating to the world that the disreputable and the dishonest have no part or place with us.

IN MEMORIAM

These annual communications are looked forward to with great pleasure. As we look over the faces of those in attendance we see old friends with whom we have been associated for years, whose hand clasp is of the warmest and whose friendship is of untold value, but a feeling of sadness creeps over our hearts when we observe the breaks in our ranks and know that the Grim Reaper has been busy during the past year. Familiar faces have passed away, and the voices of those with whom we delighted to converse are hushed forever. The names of those who occupied leading positions in the craft, and whose counsel and advice were eagerly sought after, are not heard at this roll call. The answer has been given for the last time, but we revere their memory in our hearts; their good deeds will live after them and their virtues will be emulated by those who survive them. Let us so shape our lives and actions that no matter at what time or hour the Master knocks we will be in attendance to open to Him.

"My summons may come in the morning
Or the deep peaceful slumbers of night,
It may come with a lingering warning,
Or as quick as a flash of sunlight.
It may come when my thoughts are astray
While I'm sitting alone in my dwelling
Or greeting some friend on the way;
But the day or the hour when the bidding
Comes to me, I never can know,
And I pray at the call of the Master
I may answer I'm ready to go."

Among the many who have passed away since our last communication I have to record the following:

R. W. Bro. David Collins, P. D. D. G. M., died on 21st September, 1898. He was a member of Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine, and in 1893 was D. D. G. M. of North Huron District. He was one of Kincardine's best and most respected citizens and was popular among all classes.

On the 23rd October, 1898, R. W. Bro. John Walter Murton, P. G. S. W., passed to his rest at his home in the city of Hamilton. He was widely known and had hosts of friends among the craft in the United States as well as in Canada and was considered an authority on craft matters. He had a pleasant manner and kindly

disposition, and was a warm-hearted, charitable citizen. At the time of his death he was Sheriff of the County of Wentworth. Brethren from all parts of Canada were assembled at his funeral.

The death of R. W. Bro. Francis Richardson, at Toronto, on the 11th day of October, 1898, was the severance of one of the last links which bound us to the Masonry of the first half of this century. He was 85 years of age, and had been an honored member of the fraternity for over half a century. He was G. S. Warden and Provincial Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England. He was Grand Secretary of the Ancient Grand Lodge of Canada, and on its amalgamation with the Grand Lodge of Canada, under M. W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, he gave to it his allegiance and was the first D. D. G. M. for the Toronto District. He was a member of St. Andrew's and Ionic Lodges, Toronto.

On the 25th February, 1898, R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, Grand Registrar of the Grand Lodge, died at his home in Dunnville. He was a most enthusiastic Mason and his loss will be keenly felt. He was ex-Reeve of the town and a member of the County Council.

The death of R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell was recorded on the second day of February, 1899. He was an old and valued member of Grand Lodge in the early years of Grand Lodge ably filled the position of D. D. G. M. He was the Senior Judge of the County Court of the County of Ontario and was noted for his forensic lore.

R. W. Bro. W. L. Hamilton, of Belleville, was suddenly called away on the eighteenth day of April, 1899. He was D. D. G. M. of St. Lawrence District, and for years served on the Board of General Purposes, of which he was a valued member. He was a true friend and good citizen, and at the time of his death held the position of Inspector in the Inland Revenue Service of the Dominion.

In the month of May this year R. W. Bro. Wm. Waddington, P. D. D. G. M., died at his home in Kingston.

Each of these brethren were faithful in the discharge of their respective duties, and as their names are called to-day, we sigh

"For the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still."

I received a circular from the Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska, notifying me of the death of its first Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Robert C. Jordan, who ruled over the Grand Lodge from 1857 to 1860. He died at Omaha on the 9th of January, 1899, aged 74 years. I regret also to record the death of R. W. Bro. Bowen, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska; of R. W. Bro. C. C. Stevenson, Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Idaho; of M. W. Bro. B. L. Carr, our representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado; of M. W. Bro. Andrew Bunton, our representative at Grand Lodge of New Hampshire; of M. W. Bro. John T. Williamson, our representative at Grand Lodge of Tennessee; and of Bro. Ramon Marti Boada, our representative at the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

I was also notified of the death of M. W. Bro. Enoch T. Carson, of Cincinnati, Ohio. He filled all the principal offices in Grand Lodge and was best known as an eminent Masonic authority on all matters relating to ritual.

The Mother Grand Lodge of England mourns the death of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G. C. B., M. W. Pro.-Grand Master of England, and R. W. Prov. Grand Master of the Western Division of Lancashire. He was one of the kindest and most generous of men, as well as one of the most distinguished and most popular and respected among the rulers of English Masonry. He was initiated over 40 years ago in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford. In 1862 he was appointed by the late Earl of Zetland as Senior Grand Warden. His death is a serious loss to the craft throughout the world.

Before leaving this branch of the subject it is incumbent upon me to draw your attention to a neglect of Masonic duty which has come under my observation. I refer to the attendance, particularly in the cities, at the funerals of deceased brethren. We owe it to the brethren to pay the last sad office of respect to their memory. It is true that there are many demands upon a business man's time, but the same should not prevent the craft from giving heed to the call of our lodges and follow to the grave those whom in life we were proud to call brothers. As a contrast of this neglect of Masonic duty in some of our cities, I gladly record the conduct of the members of Oxford and King Solomon Lodges, in the

town of Woodstock, who turned out some eighty strong to attend on New Year's day, 1899, the coldest day of the month, the funeral of a brother, who in his lifetime resided in the northern part of the province, and who desired to be buried in his native town. Very few of the Woodstock brethren were acquainted with the deceased, but when his wish was made known to them on the forenoon of the day previous to the funeral, so strong was their sense of duty that the body of the brother was borne to the grave and interred with Masonic honors by the good brethren of Woodstock. Although on only a day's visit to the town, my duty was so impressed upon me by what I saw that I borrowed an E. A. apron and took part in the ceremonies. Brethren, ponder over this matter and by your future conduct justify your claim to the title of Freemasons.

CONDITIONS OF THE CRAFT.

Information from all parts of the province justifies me in reporting a very prosperous year. I am safe in claiming an increase of almost one thousand in our membership. Brethren who were estranged from us for years are again in the fold. The work of the lodges is in with love for the order and a determination to live up to its precepts. In addition to the large sums of money granted annually by Grand Lodge for benevolence, I am pleased to note that the subordinate Lodges are alive to their duty and have expended over eight thousand dollars in practical Masonic charity. I know whereof I speak, as I am aware of many cases where the gifts from the Lodges and individual members proved of inestimable value to the bereaved ones.

I am proud of my Brethren and can apply to them the encomium passed by an illustrious Brother of the craft in Omaha. "It may almost be said, paraphrasing the words of the Holy Writ, 'I have been young and now am old, yet have I never seen a Mason forsaken nor his seed wanting bread.'" During my term of office I have been very fortunate in being surrounded with officers who had the best interest of the Craft at heart. From the Deputy Grand Master down through the list of officers, all have been at my command, their services have been at my disposal at all times, and they will merit your applause. I know the brethren will agree with me

in making special mention of a class of officers, who, in my opinion, undergo greater trials and suffer more privations in the cause of Masonry than all other representatives of Grand Lodge. I allude to the D.D. G. M.'s. of the nineteen Masonic Districts. I have no hesitation in affirming that the great success and prosperity which we now enjoy are due to these enthusiastic Brethren. They are entitled to your gratitude and plaudits. I desire to place on record my gratitude to them for the assistance given to me in bringing into fellowship with us those of our Brethren who were unaffiliated or under suspension for non-payment of dues. We have met with marked success, and continued efforts in this line will remove what I consider a stain on the institution. The fact of good men and good citizens not surrendering their demits and affiliating with our Lodges; the fact of respectable, moral men, who are held in high estimation by their neighbors, guilty of no crime unless you call poverty a crime, being under the ban of suspension for non-payment of dues, gives the world an opportunity of unjustly criticizing our beloved Order. This state of affairs is a reflection on our boasted claim as a benefactor to the human race.

Let us awake and see to it that the Craft does not lose the enviable position it now occupies as a great moral institution wherein are inculcated the true principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Inability to pay dues should never forfeit the right to membership and fellowship. Our charity should begin at home, and with our poor Brethren. Place them in good standing on your books, and allow their earnings to go to their wives and children for bread. The Lodge is the place for such a brother; he needs our assistance and advice, and we need him so as to remind us of our obligations. Don't forget the unaffiliated, as according to one of our periodicals "He is a Mason and barring some little pique or petty fault, is worthy of membership. Let your heart go out to him in a Brotherly way and ask him to come back to the fold. Masonry needs all worthy Masons and all Masons need Masonry. We cannot live unto ourselves, nor can we die unto ourselves. We must not be selfish; we must be broad and liberal." This is the work in which the D.D.G.M.'s have been engaged. It is the true solution of the question of unaffiliation with which the reports of all the Grand Lodges teem

year after year. These brethren are not criminals and must not be treated as such. We are on the right track and with the Divine assistance, will persevere until every good, moral-living man in the Province is within our doors, and then we can make good our claim that Masonry stands for civilization, is the friend of humanity and teaches loyalty to home, to country and to God.

Before leaving this subject I desire to note the valuable addition we have made to our membership during the year in the persons of clergymen of all the religious denominations. I find them in every lodge filling all the important offices, even that of W. M. No better nor more acceptable rulers can be placed over our lodges to teach and instruct the brethren. Masonry is the handmaid of the church, and while not claiming to be a religion, still its teachings prepare its adherents for admission to, and fellowship in, the Church of the living God. "Freemasonry is not a religion, though it stands at the threshold of her temple; it is not the church, though it is her most potent friend; it is not a missionary, though it often proves a Christian pioneer." It is very satisfactory, therefore, to notice the interest our reverend brethren are taking in craft work. I trust many more of the cloth will knock at our doors for admission and assist us in drawing plans and designs on the moral tracing board for the guidance of the brethren.

MEETING PLACE OF GRAND LODGE.

As there is a notice on the paper relating to the above subject, I desire to disclaim any intention of interfering with the freedom of discussion on this or any other proper subject which may at any time be brought before Grand Lodge. My object is to give the brethren the result of my reading on this important subject. It cannot be denied that the members of the Grand Lodge have year after year suffered inconvenience in the matter of accommodation while attending our annual sessions. We should not tolerate this condition of affairs; our annual reunions should be made as pleasant as possible for our members; no other interests should be considered. I am of the opinion that a small committee should be appointed to report on the accommodation which can be furnished by the several places proposed for the next meeting. I take the liberty of submitting a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa which

will be found of great practical benefit and commend it to your careful consideration.

"The Grand Lodge in designating the place for holding its session will require the following points to be satisfactorily established by the brother nominating a place: First. The place shall be readily accessible by railroad. Second. The brethren shall be able to furnish a good, convenient and accessible hall for the session of Grand Lodge. Third. The place shall possess ample hotel accommodation for all the members of Grand Lodge."

GENERAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

Some ten years ago this Grand Lodge affiliated with the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada. This association was organized and is carried on for the purpose of protecting the craft from the tramp fraud, and as a result of its efforts and our affiliation many thousands of dollars have been saved to the craft of this country. It will be interesting to the craft to know that through the system adopted by the association every impostor and unworthy applicant is reported to the Secretary of the General Relief Association in New York that during the past year some 239 impostors were discovered, and that since the organization of the society in 1885, 2529 cases of unworthy applicants have been published in the monthly circulars sent to each lodge in the jurisdiction. This organized protection of our funds is a work worthy of the support of every jurisdiction on the continent, and the fact that the annual expenditure for the affiliation of this Grand Lodge is only \$120 and the annual savings estimated at \$4,000, amply justifies our continuance as affiliates and should be an example to other Grand Lodges on the continent which have not as yet taken advantage of the protective system, which the craft enjoys, by the operations of so useful an organization.

THE BALLOT.

I now approach a subject to which I have given considerable attention during the past year, viz., the abuse of the ballot. My attention was drawn to four or five lodges in our jurisdiction which at one time ranked among our more prosperous lodges, now it would be in the best interests of Masonry to call in the charters.

For years not a candidate has been accepted, although many propositions were presented. Bickering and contention take the place of peace and harmony, and respectable members withdraw from the lodge or cease to attend. What is the cause of this deplorable state of affairs? I am given to understand that the principal causes are, unrecognized ambition for office; rejection of a friend who desires admittance or a desire to get even with the new Master. Unfortunately, brethren imbued with such base motives work in the dark and keep their own counsel. I became aware of unguarded speeches made by a couple of brethren who had determined to adopt the "rule or ruin" policy and caused charges to be preferred against them as the craft can well afford to part company with such characters. In another case I took into consideration the short time the offending brother was in the craft and was content in sending for him and pointing out the dangerous position which he occupied, and that on his future conduct depended his retention or removal therefrom. I am aware that the ballot is a sacred privilege entrusted to the brethren, and a conscientious exercise of the same cannot be questioned or enquired into. It is the safeguard of the institution. It is a Mason's right to exercise the privilege without interference from any one, responsible only to his own conscience, but it is well for him to know that he forgets his manhood and violates his obligation when the trust is exercised in a vindictive and cowardly spirit. Revenge, jealousy and fancied wrongs should not govern the deposit of a ballot and thereby endanger the peace and harmony of a lodge. I have a personal knowledge where a couple of brethren were thus enabled to almost wreck a lodge, but when concessions were granted them, for some mysterious reason the blackballing ceased and candidates were admitted. For such conduct no remedy exists unless the offenders have an awakening and a complete change of heart. I would commend to you the advice of an illustrious brother on this subject: "Rather let love rule in your hearts that the grandeur and loftiness alone of human character may sway your actions and keep in subjection your baser passions. Let your hearts beat responsive to the teachings of Freemasonry in all their glory and heaven-born influence so that every question which comes before the tribunal of the ballot may be

disposed of justly and honorably, although it be done in the exercise of an unalienable right, a landmark upon which no law can trench. I speak with earnestness of heart on the subject, knowing the frailties of our poor human nature, but speaking alone to its highest and noblest impulses, and asking you to ever keep in remembrance that golden rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CANADA.

The craft in this jurisdiction, and, I may add, in this Dominion, is to be heartily congratulated on the completion of the great work to which our worthy Past Grand Master, M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, has devoted years of labor and research, and the outlay for which must be beyond ordinary calculation. The "History of Freemasonry in Canada," two large volumes, is a work of such magnitude that it is far in advance of any poor words of praise that I could bestow upon it for its remarkable excellence in every single respect. Suffice it to say that no Mason who loves his country and the Ancient Craft should be without it, and I venture to express the hope that the brethren of this jurisdiction, particularly, will be quick to show their appreciation of the self-sacrificing efforts which have given to Masonic literature a contribution of such historical value and of which the eminent historian of the British Craft, Bro. W. J. Hughan, who reviewed it, says: "This history has no equal of the class either as respects its magnitude, its originality, its interest and attractiveness, its literary skill or its conspicuous success. Many of the author's extraordinary finds and well-directed researches, if fully narrated, would surprise even those most familiar with his indomitable perseverance and unwavering persistence in getting at the foundation facts of the subject. A monument to his untiring industry, persistent researches, self-sacrifice, and a never-failing enthusiasm which has placed in the hands of the craft universal, and especially his own Grand Lodge, the finest volumes of the kind ever published in connection with the history of the Masonic fraternity."

I do not consider it out of place to refer to a thoughtful act of Past Grand Master John Ross Robertson, which at the time brought our Grand Lodge prominently before the public. The first letter to take advan-

tage of the penny ocean postage which came into force on Saturday, the twenty-fifth day of December, 1898, at midnight, was posted by our talented brother as the representative of the United Grand Lodge of England, and was addressed to the Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge at London, England. The letter was of a fraternal character and alluded to the love which Canadian Masons have for the dear Mother Grand Lodge, and concluded with the words, "As this new enterprise by our respective Governments will surely multiply the written words that cross the ocean, so may it strengthen the kindly feeling we have for the Fatherland and for the myriad of brethren who look up to the great and good Grand Lodge of England as their Mother Grand Lodge." He certainly expressed the feelings of the craft in Ontario, and I consider his action worthy of record in our proceedings.

GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON.

During the past year the fraternal relations existing between the various Grand Lodges in the United States received a great strain in consequence of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing the establishment of another Grand Lodge (composed of colored men) within the borders of that State, thereby dealing a blow to the established doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction. This action, if approved of by other Grand Lodges, would give a standing to men made in lodges which have been considered clandestine. Several of the Grand Lodges suspended Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, while all of the Grand Lodges disapproved of the recognition given to irregular and clandestine Masons. The correspondence carried on between M. W. Bro. William H. Upton, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and several of the Grand Lodges on the subject, was conducted with much feeling and bitterness, which is greatly to be regretted. On the 22nd of February, 1899, I was honored by a communication from M. W. Bro. Upton, enclosing a printed copy of the report of his Grand Lodge, wherein the Grand Lodge of Colored Men were recognized, and asking for my opinion and for fraternal counsel on the subject, to which I replied as follows:

Toronto, Feby. 22nd, 1899.

Hon. W. W. Upton, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington, Walla Walla, Wash., U. S. A.:

Dear Sir and M. W. Brother,—

I have your favor of the 20th inst. enclosing copy of a pamphlet which shows the action taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last Annual Meeting relating to a communication received by your Grand Lodge from certain persons claiming to be Free and Accepted Masons of African descent; also a copy of a letter of January 4th, 1899, addressed by you to the several Grand Masters within the United States.

You asked my opinion upon certain matters mentioned by you, and also honor me with a request for fraternal counsel as to the advice you should give to your Grand Lodge in the matter. I quite agree with you that the questions raised are of the gravest character, and for that reason, while giving you my personal views, I prefer to send all papers to the Grand Lodge over which I have the honor to preside, and which will meet on the nineteenth day of July next.

Aside from any views I may have regarding the legitimate standing of Prince Hall and his associates and of African Lodge No. 459, constituted under a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, I have strong doubts as to the right or power of African Lodge to constitute other Lodges or to form Grand Lodges.

I regret exceedingly the action of your Grand Lodge in countenancing the establishment of lodges in your State which do not and will not owe allegiance to your Grand Lodge as the sole Masonic authority therein. I am at a loss to understand how our Grand Lodge can recognize more than one Grand Lodge in your State, viz., the Grand Lodge of which you are the distinguished Representative. Our Grand Lodge placed itself on record on this question on the 3rd day of July, 1871, when a letter was received from E. C. Cooper, secretary of a Lodge at Chatham, in this Province, and also a petition from J. J. Moore and others belonging to a lodge in the City of Toronto, in this Province, both said to be holding Warrants from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York (colored) desiring to surrender their Warrants, and affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Canada. Grand Lodge unanimously adopted the following report:

'The Board of General Purposes, to whom the M. W. the Grand Master referred the communication of E. C. Cooper, of Chatham, dated 24th May, 1871, and the petition of J. J. Moore, Wm. Harrison and others, beg leave to report: That the R. W. the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter and petition above referred to, and to state in reply thereto that the Grand Lodge of Canada is in communication and friendly intercourse with the M. W. the Honorable Fraternity, of A. F. & A. Masons of the M. W. Grand

Lodge of the State of New York and cannot recognize any other body claiming to be a Grand Lodge within the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge or any body assuming to derive its authority from any such unrecognised body.'

"That any application for admission to our privileges, or jurisdiction by those referred to in the said letter or in the said petition, must be made by the personal application of each candidate to a regular lodge, in accordance with the course pointed out in the Constitution."

The above report clearly sets out my views on the subject and I am positive that Grand Lodge will not recede therefrom in any one particular, nor will the fact that your Grand Lodge approves of and countenances the existence of another Grand Lodge in your State, change my views on the subject. It will therefore require no stretch of imagination to predict the complications which will in all likelihood arise in consequence of the action of your Grand Lodge. As you ask my fraternal advice on the subject, I honestly say that I regret the action taken by your Grand Lodge, and would gladly welcome a reconsideration on your part of the subject. While deploring the harsh language which you claim to have been used by several of the Grand Lodges when discussing this question, still I am convinced that you have not fully appreciated the motives of those who have opposed you in this matter. I trust you will accept these remarks as emanating from one who has the warmest and most fraternal regard for you and your Grand Lodge, and whose earnest desire is to see harmony restored and the fraternal intercourse renewed between your Grand Lodge and the other Grand Lodges of the United States of America.

Again assuring you of my fraternal regards, I have the honor to be,

"Yours fraternally,

"E. T. MALONE."

It was my intention to submit all the papers to Grand Lodge for an expression of opinion, but I do not consider it necessary to do so in the light of recent events. A few days ago I received a circular letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington, dated June 19th, 1899, addressed to all sister Grand Lodges wherein is set out a report presented to that Grand Body by a committee of seven Past Grand Masters of the jurisdiction on the 14th day of June last, which, upon motion, was almost unanimously approved of. The report is temperate in language and reflects great credit on the illustrious brethren who formed the committee. Suffice it to say that the clauses or resolutions embodied in the original report which have been so strongly objected to by the various sister Grand Lodges are now repealed and fraternal greetings are

sent to all the brethren throughout the world. We join with them in the prayer, "May brotherly love prevail and every moral and Masonic virtue cement us." I trust that the Grand Lodges which have withdrawn fraternal intercourse will now renew it. I have deposited all papers in connection therewith with the Grand Secretary, and they will be submitted to you if required.

BY-LAWS.

I have during the year settled and approved of by-laws and amendments to by-laws of a great number of lodges, a list of which will be presented to you by the Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS.

At the request of the Grand Masters of the several Grand Lodges hereinafter mentioned, I have recommended the following named brethren for appointment as Grand Representatives near this Grand Lodge:

R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and Providence, in the place of V. W. Bro. Robert Lewis, resigned;

R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee;

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, G. S. W., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine;

R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, for a further period of five years;

R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in place of R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargent, relieved of office;

R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Alabama, in place of R. W. Bro. Judge Dartnell, deceased;

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Nebraska, in place of V. W. Bro. C. W. Browne, relieved on account of physical inability to attend to Masonic duties;

R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., as Representative of Grand Lodge of Illinois, in place of R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, resigned;

The above-named brethren will present their credentials and be received with the proper honors.

I have appointed the following-named brethren Grand Representatives for this Grand Lodge near the several Grand Lodges hereinafter named:

R. W. Bro. A. S. Meyers, P. D. D. G. M., near the Grand Lodge of Tennessee;

W. Bro. G. W. Millener, near the Grand Lodge of New York.

Bro. Jos. G. Villa, near the Grand Lodge of Cuba, in place of Bro. Boada, deceased;

M. W. Bro. H. de LeHaie, near the Grand Lodge of Belgium;

R. W. Bro. Jas. R. Killian, near the Grand Lodge of Colorado, in place of M. W. Bro. B. L. Carr, deceased.

R. W. Bro. Ira A. Chase, near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in place of M. W. Bro. Andrew Burton, deceased.

I desire to draw the attention of Grand Lodge to the fact that some of the brethren act as Grand Representatives of more than one Grand Lodge. As we have several distinguished brethren who desire the honor of representing a Grand Lodge, there can certainly be no valid reason advanced why a brother should be permitted to retain the representation of more than one Grand Lodge. I contend that several of these positions should now be declared vacant and filled by new appointments, so that no brother shall hold more than one appointment. I desire an expression of opinion from Grand Lodge on this subject.

Owing to the removal of R. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, D. D. G. M., of Wilson District, No. 6, to the Province of New Brunswick, shortly after the close of the last session of Grand Lodge, I had great difficulty in finding a qualified brother who was willing to take charge for me. R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, P. D. D. G. M., came to my relief, and, notwithstanding continuous business demands upon his time, he was able to bring his task to a successful conclusion. Grand Lodge owes him a debt of gratitude for the prosperous state of the district.

Having received the resignation of R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargent as a member of the Board of General Purposes, I appointed R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins to fill the vacancy thus created.

DEDICATIONS.

During the year I was unable to personally take charge of the dedication services held in several lodges. I, however, commissioned the D. D. G. M's. of the respective districts to act for me. I regret exceedingly the disappointment I caused the members of Fidelity Lodge, Port Perry, who had made preparations for my reception. They are aware of the important business call which prevented my attendance. R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W., acted in my place and dedicated the lodge room.

On the 27th October, 1899, R. W. Bro. W. Irwin, D. D. G. M., dedicated the rooms of Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429.

On the 21st June, 1899, the Deputy Grand Master dedicated the rooms of Comber Lodge. I exceedingly regret my inability to accept the invitation to attend.

On the 14th November, 1898, R. W. Bro. Richard Mills dedicated the room of Powassan Lodge, 443.

DISPENSATIONS.

Requests for dispensations for various purposes have poured in on me during the year. With a couple of exceptions, for which good and sufficient reasons were given, all requests have been refused. The prerogative of the Grand Master in this respect should be seldom exercised. Greater benefits will enure to the craft by a strict compliance with the requirements of the constitution. As Grand Master, I have no power to suffer any departure from the rules and regulations governing the qualifications of candidates for our mysteries.

I have issued no dispensations for new lodges. The application received for a new lodge at North Williamsburg, to be called Victoria Lodge, has been referred by me to the Board of General Purposes. I am not in favor of planting new lodges in a territory fully occupied.

CORNER STONES.

During the past year I have acceded to all requests for the services of Grand Lodge in laying the corner stones of religious, educational and public institutions. This is a work that belongs exclusively to the craft. The ceremony is full of meaning to the craftsman, and with an explanation of the symbolism of the corner stone can

be made very interesting to the general public. To our order alone is reserved the right to assist in the building of institutions, "devoted to the moral and intellectual advancement of the age." I have at all times been attended by the Grand Secretary, whose services have been invaluable. I have taken advantage of these occasions to impress on my hearers the mission of Freemasonry, its benefit to mankind and the strong ties that bind together the church and the craft.

On August 9th, 1890, I was honored with a call from the municipal corporation of the city of St. Thomas, and with the assistance of the Deputy Grand Master, the D. D. G. M., the G. S. W., Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and a large concourse of brethren, I laid the corner stone of the new City Hall. Too much praise cannot be given to R. W. Bro. W. B. Doherty, the City Clerk, for the perfect arrangement of all details in connection with the ceremony. In the evening we were entertained at a banquet in the Grand Central Hotel, tendered by the Mayor and Council of the city.

At Picton, on the 11th of August last, I was assisted by the D. D. G. M., the Grand Secretary, the Grand Chaplain and a large number of brethren not only from Picton but from the surrounding cities, towns and villages. It is needless to state that every kindness and attention was shown to us by the members of the church and craft, and it was most gratifying to note the presence of so many Methodist clergymen who are members of our order. The visit was one of special interest to me, as the Bay of Quinte district and where Picton is situated, was the earliest seat of Methodism in Canada, and as the founder of Methodism, the Rev. John Wesley, was an enthusiastic Mason. He was initiated in Downpatrick Lodge, No. 36, Ireland, on 30th October, 1738, while his brother, the Rev. Samuel Wesley, the sweet singer of Methodism, was at one time Grand Organist of the Grand Lodge of England.

On the 30th day of August, 1898, R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, D. D. G. M., represented me in laying the corner stone of the new Central Public School at Rat Portage.

At Marmora, on the 13th June, assisted by the D. D. G. M., the Grand Secretary, the G. J. W., the Grand Pursuivant, and Bro. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, ex-Premier of the Dominion, I laid the corner stone of the Presby-

terian Church. Addresses of welcome were tendered to me by the Town Council, Marmora Lodge, and by the Rev. Mr. Inkster. Our visit to this prosperous part of the province will be long remembered.

At Prescott, on the 14th June, 1899, R. W. Bro. Rook, D. D. G. M., as my representative laid the corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church.

OFFICIAL AND FRATERNAL VISITS.

During my official year I have visited every lodge (except two) to which I had been invited. I have been highly honored and favored by my brethren. I have been at all times received with love and loyalty. In making these visits I was not only performing my duty as head of the craft, but thoroughly enjoying the company of my brethren. I have at all times endeavored to impress on the brethren their duty to the craft and to one another, and the responsibility which rests on each individual to so live and act as to reflect credit on the institution. I trust that good may be the outcome of our intercourse with one another, and that I may be fortunate enough to retain the respect of my brethren of every rank and station. It will not be necessary to give the details of each visit, as I carry with me the most pleasant and agreeable recollections of all.

The lodges I visited are as follows: Georgina, 343; Zetland, 326; Alpha, 384; Jerusalem, 31; Strict Observance, 27; Northern Light, 93; Ionic, 25 (Toronto); Zeta, 410; Wilson, 86; Ionic, 239 (Brampton); Rehoboam, 65; St. George, 367; King Solomon, 43; Oxford, 76; Acacia, 430; Ashlar, 247; St. Andrews, 16; Corinthian, 96; Kerr, 230; Ontario, 26; Hope, 114; Occident, 346; and Tecumseh, 144.

On the 16th March, 1899, I attended the District Lodge of Instruction held at Barrie by R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, D. D. G. M. There were over 125 brethren in attendance, every lodge in the district but one being represented. The almost faultless exemplification of the work by three of the lodges reflects credit not only on the participants, but on the energetic and talented D. D. G. M. I was greatly impressed with the accurate knowledge of Masonry generally which the candidates displayed on their examinations. I was accompanied on my visit by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., Toronto District, No. 11.

In response to the courteous invitation of R. W. Bro. James Evans, D. D. G. M. of the Ontario District, I attended a District Lodge of Instruction at Port Hope. The attendance of delegates from all parts of the district was unusually large, the exemplification of the several degrees and the knowledge imparted proved of great benefit, and the event will be marked by a renewed interest in Masonry throughout the whole district. The D. D. G. M. has been a faithful, painstaking officer.

I regret exceedingly my inability to attend the District Lodge of Instruction held by R. W. Bro. Hillier, D. D. G. M. of Erie District. I learn from the Deputy Grand Master, who was in attendance, that it was a success in every particular.

On the third of September, 1898, I was tendered a loyal reception by the brethren of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, a lodge in which I have taken a deep interest since its removal to the city of Toronto, and which now ranks as one of the strongest and most progressive in the district.

My Mother Lodge Zetland honored me with a reception on the 23rd day of September last. As the fame of Zetland is so well known throughout the province, it can be taken for granted that the meeting was successfully conducted and all visitors royally entertained. Among those who honored the lodge by their attendance were M. W. Bros. Wm. Gibson and Hugh Murray; R. W. Bro. Colin Postlethwaite, G. S. W., R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. James Glanville, D. D. G. M., and all the Past Grand Lodge Officers and the W. M's. of the city.

On the second of November, 1898, twenty lodges of the city of Toronto and adjoining locality assembled under the auspices of St. Andrew's, No. 16, the mother lodge of the city lodges, and tendered a reception and banquet to your Grand Master. Over five hundred brethren assembled in the banquet room, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. I can never forget the kindness of my brethren in Toronto District: their words of encouragement and promises of support inspired me with courage for the work of the year. I was attended by the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Junior Warden, and the two District Masters of the Toronto District. W. Bro. E. B. Brown, of Ionic, proved an ideal chairman.

On the 29th day of September I attended a special meeting of The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, when a banquet was given in honor of my predecessor, M. W. Bro. William Gibson. At this meeting the Deputy Grand Master, M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and J. M. Gibson and the Grand Secretary presented the guests the evening with the Grand Lodge testimonial and an illuminated address. The preparations made by the Barton brethren were of an elaborate character, and demonstrated the high estimation in which the M. W. Bro. is held by his brethren. A deputation from the Buffalo lodges attended to express their esteem and admiration of the illustrious brother.

On the 28th of November I attended a banquet given by the brethren of Stratford to R. W. John E. Harding on his departure from the town, where he had resided so long. He has done much to build up the craft in South Huron District. Our distinguished brother has been honored by his sovereign by an appointment to the vacant Judgeship in the County of Victoria, a position for which he is eminently qualified. We offer our congratulations on the high honor conferred on him, and trust that he may be long spared to adorn the bench of this province.

A very cordial and warm reception was given to me by the London brethren on the 8th day of February last at their At-Home held in the Grand Opera House. The function was most successful from every standpoint and was thoroughly enjoyed by several hundred ladies and gentlemen who were in attendance. The loyalty and hospitality of the craft in London are so well known that I need not describe at length the occurrences of the evening and the kindness and attention paid to your Grand Master.

Canada's Capital City, in which we are now assembled, whose great growth and prosperity has attracted the notice of enterprising men from all parts of the Dominion, has within its limits some of our most prosperous lodges. I was the guest of these lodges on the 28th day of February last, and was afforded an opportunity of meeting with several of Canada's talented sons. Every province and territory of this fair Dominion was represented at the meeting. It was a great honor and pleasure to meet with Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters and other illustrious brethren from all the sister

Grand Lodges of this country. I heard eloquent speeches from eloquent men, and felt that it was good to become acquainted with brethren who hold leading positions in the public affairs of the country. Among the distinguished brethren present were M. W. Bro. T. B. Flint, M. P., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; Past Grand Masters John Ross Robertson, M. P., and W. R. White, Q. C., of this Grand Lodge; J. V. Ellis, M. P., of St. John, New Brunswick; Hon. D. C. Fraser, M. P., of Nova Scotia; Hon. John Yeo, Senator, of Prince Edward Island; C. N. Bell, Manitoba; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, ex-Premier of the Dominion; N. F. Davin, of Northwest Territories; G. R. Maxwell, M. P., of British Columbia; J. G. Rutherford, M. P., of Manitoba; J. McAllister, M. P., of Nova Scotia; E. L. Howard, of Quebec; Dr. Landerkin, M. P., and all the leading Masons of the Ottawa Valley: altogether the gathering was one long to be remembered by the craft.

On the following evening, February 29th, I attended a gathering in Zetland Lodge, Toronto, which proved of great interest to Toronto Masons. For Masonic enthusiasm, perfect ritualism, well-regulated and ordered proceedings, Zetland Lodge holds an eminent and uniquely prominent position in craft circles. All this was plainly in evidence on the evening in question, when all the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, with the exception of M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, who was prevented by illness from attending, took charge of the ceremony of initiating a candidate with M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray as W. M. The work was correctly and impressively rendered, and drew forth praise and applause from all present.

Another feature of the evening was the presence and reception of M. W. Bro. W. A. Sutherland, of Rochester, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, and V. W. Bro. J. Hungerford Smith, his Grand Senior Deacon. I had the honor of welcoming both of these distinguished brethren. Grand Master Sutherland charmed his hearers with his eloquence and easily won his way to our hearts. He concluded an eloquent address by trusting that the two flags that were entwined on the wall behind him—the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes—would always be in front for the prosperity and civilization of the world and against the enemies of

liberty and civilization. He can always rely on a rousing reception from the craft in Canada.

On the tenth day of June last, in response to a courteous and fraternal invitation from M. W. Bro. Sutherland, and accompanied by M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, Wm. Gibson and V. W. Bro. John A. Cowan, I visited the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, where we were received by the representatives of 739 lodges, with a membership of over 98,000 Masons. I cannot describe our grand and enthusiastic reception, nor can I forget the eloquent terms in which the Grand Master welcomed and introduced us to his Grand Lodge. I appreciate the thoughtfulness of the Grand Lodge Choir in welcoming us with the songs of our country. The strains of "The Land of the Maple," "The Death of Nelson," and "Annie Laurie" were sweet to me and the brethren who accompanied me when we stood among people of another nation. Anglo-Saxon feeling and sentiment were strongly in evidence, and it made our hearts leap and the warm blood course through our veins when the names of our Beloved Sovereign and His Royal Highness the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England were received with a hurricane of applause. It is unnecessary to inform you, my brethren, that your Grand Lodge was ably and eloquently represented by M. W. Bros. Stevenson and Gibson, whom I was very fortunate in having with me. Their responses on your behalf were able efforts and proved them worthy and loyal sons of a nation on whose dominion the sun never sets. I trust that we may have an interchange of fraternal visits with the Grand Lodge of New York, and "May our friendships last as long as love doth last and be stronger than death is strong."

It is within the recollection of all the pleasure given us last year by the visit of the Grand Master and officers of the Grand Lodge of Michigan. I was unable to return the visit last January, when their Grand Lodge met in Port Huron. I would request the Grand Secretary to make the necessary preparations for the return visit next January, when the Grand Lodge of Michigan will hold its annual meeting in the city of Detroit. I can assure you of a royal reception. I have had pleasant experiences of the hospitality of the Michigan brethren and am satisfied that you will enjoy your visit.

DECISIONS.

I have given a great number of rulings during this year, but as the majority of them are governed by the Book of Constitution and opinions of my predecessors. I deem it unnecessary to burden you with a recital of the same.

I desire, however, an expression of opinion from Grand Lodge upon the following decisions given by me:

1. I decided that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to pass the ballot three times on the application of a candidate for initiation; also that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to allow members of the lodge to discuss the merits and qualifications of a candidate on whose petition the ballot had been taken. No discussion should be allowed, as thereby the secrecy of the ballot is violated. I censured a Worshipful Master for a violation of duty under above circumstances.

2. I decided that the practice, which for the first time has come to my notice, of initiating two or more candidates into Masonry at the same time, is decidedly improper, and directed the D. D. G. M. of the London District to put a stop to same.

3. There is affiliated with Doric Lodge, No. 382, a worthy brother, who at one time held the rank of P. M., subordinate lodge of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. The brother was healed on his own application several years ago. This is a case which should be treated as in the cases of those who were subsequently healed, the rank of Past Master having been conferred upon those who held that rank in the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. He applied to Doric Lodge to return him as a P. M. to Grand Lodge, which request has not been complied with, on the ground that no provision was made for conferring on or retaining rank by those who were healed prior to the final adjustment of 1895. On the matter being submitted to me I came to the conclusion that as there is a doubt with regard to the brother's case, Grand Lodge should consider the point and see that justice was done in the matter. I recommend that the Board of General Purposes bring in a report in favor of placing the brother in question and all others

similarly situated in enjoyment of this rank which in all fairness they are entitled to.

4. I decided that the word "freeborn" in our ceremonies does not exclude "illegitimate persons"; that the expression should be confined to "slaves," as the benefits of Freemasonry were not intended to be extended to those who were so shackled as to be unable to exercise freedom and independence.

5. I decided that the loss of a thumb and first finger of left hand does not debar a person from becoming a Mason.

GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA.

On the 29th day of June last I received a communication from Virginia asking for a reply to an invitation which had been forwarded last year by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, to the Grand Lodge of Canada, to take part in the ceremonies to be held at Mount Vernon in December next, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Bro. George Washington. All the Grand Lodges of the United States will be represented at this important meeting. Masonic services at the tomb will be conducted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, aided by the representatives of the other Grand Lodges. The President of the United States will be in attendance, and will address the Masons and the general public. I forwarded all communications on the subject to the Grand Secretary, with instructions to submit the same for your consideration.

Such is the account of my stewardship. I have endeavored to faithfully and conscientiously discharge the duties of the honorable position to which you elected me. I have endeavored to the best of my ability to fulfil all promises made to you a year ago. If errors have been made, deal with them in a charitable spirit, as I can assure you that in all my actions I have been guided solely by my sense of duty to the craft and with the desire to wound no heart and to give offense to no one. If I have been successful in my mission I must not forget the unselfish devotion and assistance of all the Grand Lodge officers and my deputies in the various districts. I desire to publicly express my indebtedness to the

Grand Secretary for his great and valuable assistance during the year. He has been my guide, philosopher and friend, and happy is the Grand Lodge in possessing such an efficient and intelligent officer. I trust that his services may be at the disposal of the brethren for many years to come. To my brethren I desire to impress on them their duties. On individual conduct and effort depend the maintenance of the high standard of Masonry. The world will judge of us as we conduct ourselves in the daily walks of life. While never losing sight of the obligations we have entered into with one another, we must not forget that it is our duty to take an active interest in everything that tends to the betterment and elevation of mankind. To quote from a Masonic periodical, "The trouble with all of us is that we are Lodge Room Masons, Lodge Night Masons, and not Every Day Masons. Masonry is for our morning thought and our evening meditations, and should be mixed with every action of the day. We are not to wear our Masonry on our sleeves for show; then it would become offensive and bring us censure. Masonry should be real and shewn in cheerfulness of disposition, the freedom from harsh words, the forbearance for others, the willing help rendered to those who need a word of comfort, and our own good deportment. These are Masonic charms more valuable than jewelled decorations; they prove a man to be an Every Day Mason." Let us prove to the world that we have a mission, and that we find a joy in doing good not only to those within our circle but to our fellow-men.

"Highest aim and true endeavor
Earnest work with patient might
Hoping, trusting, singing ever,
Battling bravely for the right;
Loving God, all men forgiving,
Helping weaker feet to stand
These will make a life worth living,
Make it noble, make it grand."

Yes, there's a joy in doing good
The selfish never know;
A draught so deep, so rich and pure,
It sets the heart aglow;
A draft so exquisitely rare,
It thrills the soul with bliss,
And lifts it to a heavenly world,
Or makes a heaven of this."

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Annual Communication at Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

I beg to present to Grand Lodge my annual report containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year and the expenditures made, with returns of subordinate lodges as at 24th June, 1899, and ledger balances at 31st May, 1899, together with, by instruction of the W. W. the Grand Master, a record of the special communications summoned, dispensations issued, by-laws and amendments thereto approved, Grand Representatives appointed, and other official acts of the M.W. the Grand Master.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts and expenditure from 1st June, 1898, to the 31st May, 1899, have been as follows :

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, OTTAWA, 5899. 65

RECEIPTS.

Certificates	\$ 2,972 00
Dues	11,814 60
Fees	1,675 50
Dispensations.....	182 00
Constitutions and Ceremonies	475 50
Warrants	80 00
Commutations of Dues	290 00
Past Masters' Certificates	10 00
Asylum Fund Interest	419 00
General Fund Interest	3,077 32
Miscellaneous.....	45 00

EXPENDITURE.

Salary of Grand Secretary.....	\$ 2,000 0
Salary of Grand Secretary's Assistant.....	800 00
Salary of Grand Treasurer to 30th Sept....	100 00
Salary of Stenographer	300 00
Rent of Grand Secretary's Office	175 00
Grand Secretary, balance for incidentals to 31st May, 1898 ..	58 75
Grand Secretary, advance for incidentals.	500 00
Expenses of the Board of General Purposes	689 60
Expenses of meeting of Grand Lodge at Toronto	225 62
Expenses entertainment members of Grand Lodge of Michigan..	47 45
Committee on Foreign Correspondence ...	100 00
The Times Printing Co., Printing....	81 50
The Spectator Printing Co., on account of Printing	1,400 00
Copp, Clark & Co., on account of Printing.	200 00
J. Eastwood & Co., Stationery	59 80
Chairman of Committee on Benevolence for Postages.....	15 00
Masonic Relief Association, U. S. and Canada ..	113 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond.	50 00
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, travelling expenses two years ...	1,000 00
M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on account travelling expenses	250 00
Expenses investigation Frederick Lodge, 217	16 50
Testimonial to M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson....	300 00
Repairs to Grand Master's Regalia.....	8 75

Carried forward\$21,040 92

Carried forward\$ 8,440 97

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$21,040 92	<i>Brought forward</i>	\$ 8,440 97
		Bruce, Burton & Bruce,	
		opinion on debentures	15 00
		Expenses meeting of	
		Committee on Audit	
		and Finance.....	35 15
		Insurance on Grand	
		Lodge Regalia . . .	17 50
		Expenses of Benevo-	
		lence Investigation ..	454 70
		Orders on the Fund of	
		Benevolence	9,880 00
Total.....	\$21,040 92	Total.....	\$18,793 82

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

By direction of the M. W., the Grand Master, especial communications of Grand Lodge were held as follows, viz.:

On the 8th August, 1898, at St. Thomas, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new City Hall, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 11th August, 1898, at Picton, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the First Methodist Church, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 30th August, 1898, at Rat Portage, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Public Central School, R. W. Bro. Allan McDougall, D. D. G. M., officiating.

On the 13th June, 1899, at Marmora, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 14th June, 1899, at Maxville, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Presbyterian Church, R. W. Bro. Geo. Rook, D. D. G. M., officiating.

DEDICATIONS.

By instructions of the M. W. the Grand Master, the following halls have been dedicated for craft purposes since the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, namely:

Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429, Port Elgin, 27th October, 1898, by R. W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, D. D. G. M.

Powassan Lodge, No. 443, Powassan, 14th November, 1898, by R. W. Bro. Richard Mills, D. D. G. M.

Parvaim Lodge, No. 395, Comber, 21st June, 1899,
by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, Port Perry, 27th June,
1899, by R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, G. J. W.

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge Dispensations were granted for the formation of the following lodges, namely :

The Lake of the Woods Lodge, Rat Portage, Algoma District, No. 17, 27th July, 1898.

Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, Algoma District, No. 17, 27th July, 1898.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master, R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, of Hamilton, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, in place of R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell, deceased.

R. W. Bro. F. F. Manley, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Belgium.

R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, of Ottawa, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, in place of R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, resigned.

R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine in place of R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, deceased.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, in place of V. W. Bro. C. W. Brown, relieved of office, he being physically disabled.

R. W. Bro. Henry A. Collins, of Toronto, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, in place of V. W. Bro. Robert Lewis, resigned.

R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson, of London, has been re-appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, that Grand Lodge having resumed the practice of exchanging Representatives.

R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, of Kincardine, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, for a further term of five years.

R. W. Bro. Henry Rush, of Peterboro, has been ap-

pointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in place of R. W. Bro. Thomas Sargant.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Colorado, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. James R. Killian, of Walsenburg, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado, in place of M. W. Bro. Byron L. Carr, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of the Island of Cuba, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. Jose G. Villa, of Havana, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba, in place of W. Bro. Ramon Marti Boada, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of New Hampshire, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. Ira A. Chase, of Bristol, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in place of M. W. Bro. Andrew Bunton, deceased.

Upon the recommendation, and at the special request of the M. W. the Grand Master of New York, W. Bro. Geo. W. Millener, of Tonawanda, has been appointed our Representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, in place of W. Bro. Sydney F. Walker.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Tennessee, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. A. S. Myers, of Memphis, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, that Grand Lodge having resumed the practice of interchanging Representatives.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Belgium, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed M. W. Bro. Houzeau de Lehaie our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Belgium.

RESIGNATION OF R. W. BRO. C. L. MERRITT.

On the 16th October, 1898, the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, D. D. G. M., of the Wilson District, No. 6, in place of R. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, removed from the jurisdiction.

LODGE BY LAWS.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed the by-laws of the following lodges: 1898, December 22nd, Dymont Lodge No. 442, Thessalon;

1899, January 3rd, Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath;
1899, April 3rd, Nitetis Lodge No. 444, Creemore.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed amendments to the by-laws of the following lodges:

1898, August 26th, Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa.
1898, September 14th, Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls.
1898, Sept. 15th, Stanley Lodge, No. 426, West Toronto Junction.
1898, October 13th, Wingham Lodge, No. 286, Wingham.
1898, November 16th, Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa.
1898, December 5th, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto.
1898, December 21st, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
1898, December 27th, Amity Lodge, No. 32, Dunnville.
1899, January 17th, Doric Lodge, No. 58, Ottawa.
1899, January 21st, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
1899, January 21st, Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterboro.
1899, January 30th, Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie.
1899, March 4th, Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto.
1899, March 22nd, Irvine Lodge, No. 203, Elora.
1899, March 25th, Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi.
1899, April 10th, Union Lodge, No. 380, London.
1899, April 18th, Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls.
1899, May 18th, Composite Lodge, No. 30, Whitby.
1899, May 18th, Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville.
1899, June 20th, Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie.
1899, June 29th, Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford.
1899, July 7th, Burlington Lodge, No. 165, Burlington.
1899, July 10th, The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, Belleville.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued by instruction of the M. M. the Grand Master the following dispensations, viz.:

DISPENSATIONS.

DATE.	No. of LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
July 14, 1898..	129	The Rising Sun.....	Aurora	To Attend Divine Service.
" 30, " ..	196	Madawaska	Arnprior	" Attend Divine Service.
" 30, " ..	436	Burns	Hepworth	" Attend Divine Service.
Aug. 2, " ..	292	Robertson	King.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 4, " ..	287	Shuniah.....	Fort Arthur	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 9, " ..	415	Fort William.....	Fort William	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 11, " ..	147	Mississippi	Almonte.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Sept. 19, " ..	357	Watertown	Millgrove.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Oct. 1, " ..	62	St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Nov. 25, " ..	116	Cassia	Thedford.....	" Elect Officers.
" 25, " ..	409	Golden Rule	Gravenhurst.....	" Elect Officers.
" 29, " ..	360	Muskoka	Bracebridge.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 28, " ..	186	Plantagenet	Plantagenet.....	" Elect Officers.
" 28, " ..	864	Chaudiere.....	Ottawa.....	" Elect Officers.
" 28, " ..	438	Harmony.....	Toronto.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Dec. 5, " ..	292	Robertson	King	" Install Officers.
" 5, " ..	217	Frederick	Delhi.....	" Elect Officers.
" 8, " ..	U. D.	Granite	Fort Frances	" Wear Regalia at a Ball.
" 9, " ..	185	Enniskillen	York	" Elect Officers.
" 15, " ..	439	Alexandria	Alexandria	" Elect Officers.
" 15, " ..	435	Havelock	Havelock	" Elect Officers.
" 16, " ..	378	Copstone	Welland	" Elect Officers.
" 19, " ..	24	St. Francis.	Smith's Falls.	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 20, " ..	313	Oleменти.....	Lakefield.....	" Install Officers.
" 20, " ..	190	Belmont.....	Belmont.....	" Initiate out of Jurisdiction.
" 22, " ..	74	St. James'.....	Bethel.....	" Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS - Continued.

DATE.	NO. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Dec. 23, 1898..	106	Burford.....	Burford.....	To Install Officers.
" 24, " "	232	Marmora.....	Marmora.....	" Install Officers.
" 27, " "	438	Harmony.....	Toronto.....	" Change Date of Meeting.
" 26, " "	433	Bonnechere.....	Eganville.....	" Install Officers.
" 28, " "	221	Mountain.....	Thorold.....	" Install Officers.
" 29, " "	390	Florence.....	Florence.....	" Install Officers.
" 31, " "	294	Moore	Courtright.....	" Install Officers.
" 31, " "	147	Mississippi.....	Almonte.....	" Install Officers.
Jan. 4, 1899..	434	Algonquin.....	Emdale.....	" Install Officers.
" 4, " "	228	Prince Arthur	Odessa.....	" Install Officers.
" 4, " "	4 3	Windsor	Windsor	" Install Officers.
" 5, " "	409	Golden Rule.....	Gravenhurst.....	" Install Officers.
" 6, " "	387	Lansdowne	Lansdowne	" Install Officers.
" 6, " "	233	Doric	Parkhill.....	" Install Officers.
" 7, " "	318	Georgian.....	Penetanguishene	" Install Officers.
" 7, " "	266	Northern Light	Stayner.....	" Install Officers.
" 10, " "	113	Wilson	Waterford.....	" Install Officers.
" 11, " "	65	Rehoboam.....	Toronto.....	" Install Officers.
" 13, " "	99	Tuscan.....	Newmarket.....	" Attend D'vine Service.
" 14, " "	359	Vittoria.....	Vittoria.....	" Install Officers.
" 16, " "	343	Georgian	Toronto.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 18, " "	224	Zurich	Hensall.....	" Install Officers.
" 18, " "	57	Harmony	Binbrook.....	" Install Officers.
" 19, " "	277	Seymour	Port Dalhousie.....	" Install Officers.
" 19, " "	186	Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	" Install Officers.
" 21, " "	425	St. Clair.....	Sombra.....	" Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	NO. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Jan. 23, 1899..	384	Alpha.....	Toronto.....	To Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 24, " "	431	Scott.....	Grand Valley.....	" Wear Regalia at a Conversatione.
" 31, " "	346	Occident.....	Toronto.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Feb. 4, " "	66	Durham.....	Newcastle.....	" Install Officers.
" 7, " "	125	Cornwall.....	Cornwall.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 13, " "	394	King Solomon.....	Thamesford.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 17, " "	86	Wilson.....	Toronto.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 27, " "	110	Central.....	Prescott.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 28, " "	231	Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	" Initiate out of Jurisdiction.
Mar. 4, " "	96	Corinthian.....	Barrie.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 10, " "	443	Powassan.....	Powassan.....	" Install Officers.
" 14, " "	289	Doric.....	Lobo.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 16, " "	343	Georgina.....	Toronto.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 21, " "	200	St. Albans.....	Mount Forest.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
Apl. 15, " "	330	Corinthian.....	London East.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
May 23, " "	84	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	" Wear Regalia at an At Home.
" 25, " "	230	Kerr.....	Barrie.....	" Install Officers.
" 25, " "	353	Granite.....	Parry Sound.....	" Attend Divine Service.
June 3, " "	196	Madawaska.....	Amprior.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " "	U. D.	Granite.....	Fort Frances.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " "	300	Mt. Olivet.....	Thornedale.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " "	203	Irvine.....	Elora.....	" Install Officers.
" 14, " "	279	New Hope.....	Heepeler.....	" Confer a Degree within Prescribed Time.
" 16, " "	7	Union.....	Grimsby.....	" Wear Regalia at their Cent'l Celebration
" 16, " "	216	Harris.....	Orangeville.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 16, " "	295	Conestogo.....	Drayton.....	" Attend Divine Service.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	NO. OF LODGE.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
June 16, 1899..	376	Unity.....	Huntsville.....	To Attend Divine Service.
" 17, " ..	10	Norfolk.....	Simcoe.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 21, " ..	235	Aldworth.....	Paisley.....	" Install Officers.
" 23, " ..	115	Ivy.....	Beamsville.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 22, " ..	396	Cedar.....	Warton.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 24, " ..	129	The Rising Sun.....	Aurora.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 24, " ..	258	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	" Install Officers.
" 26, " ..	394	King Solomon's.....	Thamesford.....	" Install Officers.
" 27, " ..	284	St. John's.....	Brussels.....	" Attend Divine Service.

Fraternally submitted,

J. J. Marion
Grand Secretary.

HAMILTON, 13th July, 1898.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

Annual Communication at Ottawa, 19th July, 1899.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

I herewith submit a statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Grand Lodge for the year ending 31st May, 1899.

The balance at the credit of the Current Account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, on the 1st of June, 1899, was	\$20,583 70
During the year I received from the Grand Secretary.	21,040 92
	<hr/>
	\$41,624 62
The expenditure for general purposes during the year was	\$8,968 32
For benevolence.....	9,830 00
	<hr/>
	\$18,798 32
For \$7,000.00 " Woodstock " debentures and \$3,000.00 " Brockville " debentures with premium and accrued interest.....	11,529.08
	<hr/>
	30,327 40
Balance in Bank on 1st June, 1899.....	\$11,302 22

The attached balance sheet shows the amounts at the credit of the General Fund, and the Asylum Fund respectively, on the 31st May, 1899, and the sums invested, with the rate of interest.

All the debentures are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping.

STATEMENT—GENERAL FUND.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, in account with HUGH MURRAY, Grand Treasurer.

1898.

DISBURSEMENTS.

June 30—	Paid Grand Secretary, salary to date	\$ 500 00
" 30—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date	50 00
" 30—	" Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
July 31—	" J. B. Nixon, attendance on Ben. Committee	15 00
" 31—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation	200 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, balance incidental expenses to 31st May, 1898	58 75
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, advance for incidental expenses	500 00
" 31—	" Times Printing Co., printing	81 50
" 31—	" J. Eastwood & Co., stationery	59 80
" 31—	" Chairman Committee on Benevolence postage	15 00
" 31—	" Spectator Printing Co., on account printing	400 00
Aug. 31—	" Copp, Clark & Co., printing certificates, etc., on account	210 00
" 31—	" Expenses meeting of Grand Lodge at Toronto	225 82
" 31—	" Expenses G. L. of Michigan entertainment	47 45
" 31—	" M. W. Bro Hy. Robertson, Report on Foreign Correspondence	100 00
" 31—	" General Masonic Relief Association, annual subscription	113 00
" 31—	" Expenses Board of General Purposes	639 80
" 31—	" Premium on Grand Sec'y Guarantee Bond	50 00
" 31—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation	100 00
Sept. 30—	" M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, travelling expenses for two years	1,000 00
" 30—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date	500 00
" 30—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date	50 00
" 30—	" Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
" 30—	" J. B. Nixon, on account Ben. investigation	100 00
" 30—	" J. B. Nixon, balance account Ben. investigation	39 70
" 30—	" R. W. Bro. Hegler, expenses investigation Delhi Lodge	16 50
Dec. 31—	" Testimonial to M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson	280 00
" 31—	" Engraving address to M. W. Bro. Gibson	40 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date	500 00
" 31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 31—	" Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
" 31—	" Repairs to Grand Master's regalia	8 75

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Dec. 31—	Paid Grand Master, on account of travelling expenses.....	250 00
" 31—	" E. Jarvis & Co., for \$7,000.00 " Woodstock" debentures and \$3,000.00 " Brockville" debentures, with premiums and accrued interest	11,529 08
1899.		
Mar. 31—	" Bruce, Burton & Bruce, legal opinion on debentures	15 00
" 31—	" Expenses meeting of Committee on Audit and Finance	35 15
" 31—	" Spectator Printing Co., on account printing	1,000 00
" 31—	" Rent of Grand Secretary's office to April 1st, 1899.....	175 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date	500 00
" 31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	200 00
" 31—	" Stenographer, salary to date	75 00
" 31—	" Manchester Insurance Co., insurance on realia.....	17 50
May 31—	" Benevolent orders as per list.....	9,830 00
" 31—	" Balance as per balance sheet	87,655 47
		<u>\$100,977 87</u>

1898.

RECEIPTS.

June 1—	Balance as per balance sheet.....	\$80,315 95
July 13—	By Grand Secretary	5,000 00
Nov. 29—	By Grand Secretary	267 62
Dec. 1—	By Grand Secretary	2,000 00
1899.		
Feb. 25—	By Grand Secretary.....	5,000 00
April 30—	By Grand Secretary.....	2,000 00
May 31—	By Grand Secretary.....	5,500 00
" 31—	By Grand Secretary.....	854 80
		<u>\$100,977 87</u>

1898.

STATEMENT—ASYLUM FUND.

May 31—	By balance as per balance sheet	\$15,227 75
1899.		
May 31—	By Grand Secretary	419 00
		<u>\$15,646 75</u>

Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

BALANCE SHEET, MAY 31ST, 1899.

DEBENTURES—		
The British Canadian Loan & In. Co., at 4½%	\$15,000 00	
The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co., at 4½% ..	15,000 00	
The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co., at 4% ..	10,000 00	
The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co., at 4%	10,000 00	
The Landed Banking & Loan Co., at 4½%	10,000 00	
The Landed Banking and Loan Co., at 4½%	5,000 00	
The Ontario Loan & Debenture Co., at 4½%	5,000 00	
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co., at 4½%	5,000 00	
Woodstock Debentures, face value, 6%	7,000 00	
Brockville Debentures, face value, 4%	3,000 00	
	<u>\$85,000 00</u>	
CURRENT ACCOUNT—		
Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce	11,302 22	
	<u>\$96,302 22</u>	
		<u>\$96,302 22</u>

General Fund.....\$90,855 47
 Asylum Fund..... 15,646 75

We certify that the debentures named and set forth in the Balance Sheet are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping, and that the above mentioned balance, \$11,302.22, was at the credit of the current account of the Grand Lodge at the close of business on the 1st day of June, 1899.
 For the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Hamilton.

(Signed) WM. ROBERTS, Manager.
 E. P. GOWER, Accountant.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

Hamilton, 10th July, 1899.

HUGH MURRAY, Grand Treasurer

PAYMENTS BY THE GRAND TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF BENEVOLENCE.

June 1898	Aug. 1898
30 Mrs. Wm. L.....\$15 00	31 Mrs. J. A. McI.....\$10 00
July.	31 Dau. of Thos. L..... 20 00
31 Miss M. M. H..... 18 75	31 Mrs. N. H. S..... 20 00
31 Miss Mary W. 75 00	31 Mrs. W. S. P..... 20 00
31 Mrs. W. M. W..... 37 50	31 Mrs. Jas. M..... 15 00
31 Bro. Edward G..... 25 00	31 Bro. Jno. C. W..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Robt. V..... 10 00	31 Mrs. Andrew K..... 25 00
August.	31 Mrs. D. C. H..... 20 00
31 Bro. T. H. B..... 50 00	31 Mrs. Wm. R..... 15 00
31 Mrs. J. M. C..... 20 00	31 Mrs. Thos. S. A..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Rich. B..... 25 00	31 Mrs. G. S. McF..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Wm W..... 40 00	31 Dau. of Wm. K..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Peter P..... 10 00	31 Mrs. A. G..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. S..... 10 00	31 Mrs. W. L..... 15 00
31 Bro. F. P. G..... 50 00	31 Mrs. Rich. P..... 15 00
31 Bro. Wm. C..... 50 00	31 Mrs. J. H. W..... 10 00
31 Bro. David McN..... 25 00	31 Mrs. McKee C..... 15 00
31 Mrs. G. N. S..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Thos. F..... 10 00
31 Mrs. T. T. V..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Robt. V..... 10 00
31 Mrs. John J..... 20 00	31 Mrs. R. A. K..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Jos. W..... 10 00	31 Mrs. Jacob Le C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. John M..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Jno. E..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Hy. R..... 10 00	31 Mrs. Jas. W..... 10 00
31 Mrs. F. W. C..... 20 00	31 Mrs. Wm. M..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Wm. J..... 20 00	31 Bro. W. A. McL..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Wm. C..... 20 00	31 Bro. Jno. S..... 50 00
31 Mrs. G. N. B..... 15 00	31 Bro. Hy. N..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Geo. R. Y..... 10 00	31 Bro. T. R. W..... 50 00
31 Bro. J. W. C..... 25 00	31 Mrs. Peter G..... 20 00
31 Bro. J. L. D..... 25 00	31 Bro. J. S. McD..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Albert P..... 20 00	31 Mrs. A. M..... 10 00
31 Bro. Fred. D..... 25 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. M. W..... 10 00	31 Mrs. P. R. D..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Lionel Y..... 20 00	31 Mrs. Walter H..... 20 00
31 Mrs. J. R. L. S..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Robt. G..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Robt. H..... 25 00	31 Mrs. Hy. H..... 10 00
31 Bro. Jas. C..... 50 00	31 Mrs. Wm. M..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. A. H..... 10 00	31 Bro. Philander M..... 25 00
31 Bro. Arch. C..... 25 00	31 Bro. Peter B..... 50 00
31 Mrs. W. M. H..... 40 00	31 Mrs. Chas. B..... 20 00
31 Mrs. John V..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Chas. A. B..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Geo. T. P..... 10 00	31 Bro. Jno. A. S..... 25 00
31 Mrs. T. D. H..... 40 00	31 Mrs. J. W. McD..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. T. G..... 40 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Horatio C..... 10 00	31 Bro. Jas. B..... 50 00
31 John H..... 20 00	31 Mrs. S. M. D..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Wm. A..... 20 00	31 Bro. Robt. F..... 50 00
31 Mrs. Jno. A..... 20 00	31 Mrs. J. E. E..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Jas. B..... 10 00	31 Mrs. A. E. B..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Alex. J. S..... 20 00	31 Thos. L..... 15 00

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Aug. 1898	Sept. 1898
31 Mrs. Alex. M.....\$10 00	30 Mrs. T. G. S..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. P..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Joshua P..... 15 00
31 Orphs. of B. J. McA.. 15 00	30 Bro. Alex. B..... 25 00
31 Bro. Jno. C..... 25 00	30 Mrs. Wm. W..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. F. S... 15 00	30 Mrs. Jos. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. J. A..... 20 00	30 Mrs. W. A. F..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. F. E..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Edward H..... 20 00	30 Mrs. J. B. R... 20 00
31 Orphs. of Jno. R. S... 20 00	30 Mrs. Oliver Y..... 20 00
31 Mrs. M. H. P..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jno. T. 10 00
31 Mrs. S. H. McC..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jno. F..... 20 00
31 Jno. K..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Jos. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Geo. C..... 10 00	30 Mrs. T. H. L..... 25 00
31 Mrs. D. L. C..... 15 00	30 Bro. Jas. R..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Rich. H..... 10 00	30 Bro. Jno. F. 25 00
31 Mrs. Wm. W..... 10 00	30 Bro. L. W. W..... 50 00
31 Mrs. Jno. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Peter C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. B. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Amasa L..... 20 00
31 Mother of J. B. C.... 40 00	30 Bro. R. C. W..... 25 00
31 Mrs. Hy. H..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Aaron B..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Geo. E..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. J..... 10 00
31 Mrs. A. C. C..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. J..... 10 00
31 Mrs. F. S. C. D 10 00	30 Mrs. Thos. R..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Thos. G. H..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Geo. D..... 15 00
31 Bro. C. R. B..... 25 00	30 Mrs. Adam P..... 10 00
31 Bro. A. C. S..... 25 00	30 Mother of S. D..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jas. F..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Hy. A. E..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Jas. M..... 10 00	30 Mrs. S. M. P..... 15 00
31 Orphs. of Jno. D..... 25 00	30 Mrs. J. L. Y..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Jas. McG..... 10 00	30 Bro. Jas. B..... 50 00
31 Mrs. Wm. A..... 10 00	30 Mrs. L. G. C..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Samuel R..... 15 00	30 Mrs. Wm. J..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Thos. B..... 10 00	30 Bro. David C..... 40 00
31 Mrs. Adam A..... 10 00	30 Mrs. A. G..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Robt. W..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jas. A. B. 10 00
31 Bro. Walter H..... 50 00	30 Mrs. Arthur J..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Jno. M..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jno. J..... 10 00
31 Mrs. W. J. S..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Mat. F. H... 15 00
31 Bro. Hy. B..... 25 00	30 Mrs. R. H..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Wm. P..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Robt. C..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Jas. A..... 10 00	30 Mrs. A. S. W..... 15 00
31 Mrs. Thos. J. J..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Andrew R..... 20 00
31 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Mat. C. B..... 10 00
31 Mrs. Levi N..... 10 00	30 Bro. Edwin McC..... 25 00
September.	30 Mrs. David S..... 20 00
30 Mrs. J. C. B..... 10 00	30 Orphs. of Mat. N... 40 00
30 Mrs. S. B..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Jas. H..... 10 00
30 Mrs. Wm. R..... 20 00	30 Mrs. Jas. Y..... 15 00
30 Mrs. Jno. W..... 10 00	30 Mrs. Samuel S..... 10 00
30 Mrs. Edward W..... 15 00	30 Mrs. Wm. McC..... 15 00
30 Mrs. W. H. P..... 15 00	30 Bro. Robt. C..... 25 00
30 Mrs. S. H. B..... 10 00	30 Bro. John J..... 25 00
30 Mrs. J. H. H..... 15 00	October.
30 Mrs. Geo. W..... 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. S..... 10 00
30 Mrs. D. R..... 10 00	31 Bro. Wm. F. D..... 25 00

Oct. 1898	Dec.	1898.
31 Mrs. C. G. \$15 00	31 Mrs. John W. \$10 00	
31 Mrs. J. J. D. 15 00	31 Bro. Donald R. 40 00	
31 Mrs. Geo. H. 10 00	31 Mrs. H. L. K. 10 00	
31 Mrs. J. S. Z. 10 00	31 Miss Mary W. 75 00	
31 Miss M. H. H. 18 75	January, 1899.	
31 Mrs. Jas. A. A. 20 00	31 Miss M. H. H. 18 75	
31 Miss Mary W. 75 00	31 Mrs. W. M. W. 37 50	
31 Mrs. J. P. McD. 20 00	31 Bro. Chas. S. 40 00	
31 Mrs. Robt. Y. 10 00	31 Mrs. Thos. R. 20 00	
31 Mrs. Jno. T. 10 00	31 Mrs. E. C. 20 00	
31 Mrs. Wm. McE. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Thos. P. 10 00	
31 Mrs. Geo. G. 5 00	31 Mrs. John R. 20 00	
31 Mrs. David R. 10 00	31 Mrs. D. G. H. 20 00	
31 Mrs. R. R. G. M. 20 00	31 Mrs. Wm. S. 10 00	
31 Bro. Jas. J. 25 00	31 Mrs. John W. 10 00	
31 Mrs. A. C. R. 15 00	31 Bro. Arch. C. 25 00	
31 Mrs. W. B. S. 25 00	31 Mrs. W. H. P. 15 00	
31 Mrs. Rich. F. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Jas. A. B. 10 00	
31 Mrs. A. C. I. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. E. E. 10 00	
31 Mrs. W. W. S. 10 00	31 Bro. C. W. B. 25 00	
31 Mrs. P. G. T. 20 00	February.	
31 Mrs. Stephen T. 15 00	28 Dau. of Thos. L. 20 00	
31 Mrs. F. B. 10 00	28 Mrs. Robt. H. 25 00	
31 Mrs. J. W. H. 40 00	28 Mrs. F. W. C. 20 00	
31 Mrs. Robt. C. 15 00	28 Mrs. Jno. T. G. 40 00	
31 Mrs. Jno. B. 10 00	28 Mrs. Mat. F. H. 15 00	
31 Mrs. W. H. S. 10 00	28 Mrs. Alex. J. S. 20 00	
31 Mrs. Walter McK. 10 00	28 Bro. J. L. D. 25 00	
November.	28 Bro. Jno. C. W. 25 00	
30 Mrs. J. G. J. 10 00	28 Dau. of Wm. K. 10 00	
30 Mrs. Arthur B. 40 00	28 Mrs. Wm. L. 15 00	
30 Mrs. Erasmus K. 10 00	28 Bro. F. P. G. 50 00	
30 Mrs. Chas. W. N. 10 00	28 Mrs. Wm. J. 20 00	
30 Mrs. Samuel L. 20 00	28 Mrs. Wm. McC. 15 00	
30 Mrs. G. C. McK. 10 00	28 Mrs. J. R. L. S. 15 00	
30 Mrs. R. H. W. 20 00	28 Bro. Jno. W. C. 25 00	
30 Orph. of Sir R. H. B. 20 00	28 Mrs. Jacob Le C. 10 00	
30 Mrs. J. D. McD. 25 00	28 Mrs. Jno. F. 20 00	
30 Funeral expenses of	28 Mrs. Wm. C. 20 00	
S. S. M. 35 00	28 Mrs. J. A. McI. 10 00	
30 Mrs. Peter S. 10 00	28 Mrs. Jno. A. 20 00	
30 Mrs. Joshua B. 15 00	28 Mrs. Thos. F. 10 00	
30 Mrs. Leslie W. 20 00	28 Mrs. F. S. C. D. 10 00	
30 Bro. Jas. W. 25 00	28 Mrs. Geo. T. P. 10 00	
30 Mrs. Thos. B. 10 00	28 Mrs. T. D. H. 40 00	
30 Orphs. of Mat. C. 20 00	28 Bro. W. A. McL. 25 00	
30 Mrs. W. E. J. 10 00	28 Mrs. Jno. M. 15 00	
December.	28 Mrs. Jno. H. 30 00	
31 Bro. Edward G. 50 00	28 Mrs. Nathan H. S. 20 00	
31 Mrs. John V. 10 00	28 Mrs. Hy. H. 20 00	
31 Mrs. C. E. S. B. 10 00	28 Mrs. Robt. C. 15 00	
31 Mrs. W. M. W. 37 50	28 Mrs. Geo. R. Y. 10 00	
31 Mrs. Anthony D. 10 00	28 Mrs. John J. 20 00	
31 Mrs. Thos. E. 10 00	28 Mrs. Joshua P. 15 00	
31 Mrs. Arthur W. 15 00	28 Mrs. Jno. G. J. 10 00	

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23	Mrs. Thos. T. V.	\$15 00
28	Bro. Wm. F. D.	25 00
28	Bro. Thos. H. B.	50 00
28	Mrs. Rich. F.	20 00
28	Mrs. S. M. D.	20 00
28	Mrs. W. M. H.	40 00
28	Mrs. W. A. H.	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. M.	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. F. S.	15 00
28	Mrs. Peter G.	20 00
28	Mrs. Geo. E.	10 00
28	Mrs. Jas. W.	10 00
28	Mrs. G. H. B.	15 00
28	Mrs. A. S. W.	15 00
28	Mrs. Wm. A.	10 00
28	Mrs. J. A. A.	20 00
23	Mrs. Albert P.	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. W.	40 00
28	Mrs. Jos. M.	10 00
28	Mrs. A. C. I.	10 00
28	Mrs. Lionel Y.	20 00
28	Mrs. Rich. P.	15 00
28	Mrs. Robt. V.	10 00
23	Bro. Alex. B.	25 00
28	Mrs. Wm. M. W.	10 00
28	Mrs. W. J. S.	10 00
28	Mrs. David S.	20 00
28	Mrs. Peter C.	10 00
28	Mrs. Robt. G.	10 00
28	Mrs. L. G. J.	10 00
28	Bro. Edwin McC.	25 00
28	Mrs. I. S. B.	10 00
28	Mrs. W. S. W.	10 00
28	Mrs. R. E. H.	15 00
28	Bro. Thos. H. L.	25 00
28	Mrs. Thos. J. J.	20 00
28	Bro. Robt. C.	25 00
28	Mrs. Jno. E.	15 00
28	Mrs. Thos. S. A.	40 00
23	Mrs. Jno. V.	10 00
28	Bro. Jas. J.	25 00
28	Mrs. Jos. C.	10 00
28	Mrs. Arthur J.	15 00
28	Mrs. Arch. G.	15 00
28	Mrs. Wm. S. P.	20 00
28	Mrs. Amasa L.	20 00
28	Bro. T. R. W.	50 00
28	Mrs. Wm. A.	20 00
28	Mrs. Jno. H.	10 00
28	Bro. R. C. W.	25 00
28	Mrs. Walter McK.	10 00
28	Mrs. S. H. McC.	20 00
28	Mrs. A. C. R.	15 00
23	Bro. Wm. C.	50 00
28	Bro. Fred. D.	25 00
28	Mrs. A. C. C.	10 00

Feb. 1899

28	Mrs. O. E. S. B.	\$10 00
28	Mrs. D. L. C.	15 00
28	Mrs. Samuel R.	15 00
28	Mrs. Geo. C.	10 00
28	Mrs. W. F.	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. W.	10 00
28	Mrs. Peter P.	10 00
28	Mrs. Hy. H.	10 00
28	Mrs. M. H. P.	20 00
28	Bro. Jno. F.	25 00
28	Bro. J. C.	25 00
28	Mrs. Jno. W.	10 00
28	Mr. Jas. McG.	10 00
28	Bro. C. R. B.	25 00
28	Mrs. T. McC. L.	15 00
28	Mrs. Ed. W.	15 00
28	Mrs. S. M. P.	15 00
28	Mrs. Jas. Y.	15 00
28	Mrs. Geo. D.	15 00
28	Mrs. Mat. C. B.	10 00
28	Bro. David McM.	25 00
28	Mrs. Rich. H.	10 00
28	Bro. John S.	50 00
28	Mrs. Jas. A.	10 00
28	Bro. Hy. N.	25 00
28	Bro. John J.	25 00
28	Mrs. John W.	10 00
28	Bro. Robt. F.	50 00
28	Mrs. Geo. W. S.	15 00
28	Mrs. Robt. A. K.	10 00
28	Mrs. Horatio C.	10 00
28	Bro. Jno. A. S.	25 00
28	Mrs. Andrew M.	10 00
28	Mrs. Jos. C.	10 00
28	Mrs. Robt. Y.	10 00
28	Mrs. S. B.	10 00
28	Bro. Jas. R.	25 00
28	Mrs. Jas. F.	10 00
28	Mrs. Anthony D.	10 00
28	Mrs. Jno. T.	10 00
28	Mrs. Samuel S.	10 00
28	Mrs. Edment H.	20 00
28	Bro. Peter B.	50 00
28	Mrs. Jno. T.	10 00
28	Bro. A. C. S.	25 00
28	Mrs. Wm. M.	20 00
28	Mrs. H. A. E.	40 00
28	Mrs. Chas. A. B.	20 00
28	Bro. Jas. C.	50 00
28	Mrs. Jas. H.	10 00
28	Mrs. Oliver Y.	20 00
28	Mrs. McKee C.	15 00
28	Mrs. Stephen T.	15 00
28	Mrs. Andrew K.	25 00
28	Mrs. Hy. R.	10 00
28	Mrs. J. W. McD.	20 00

Feb. 1899	Mar. 1899
28 Orphs. of J. H. B. \$10 00	31 Mrs. Wm. S. 10 00
28 Mrs. Adam A. 10 00	31 Mrs. Arthur B. 40 00
28 Mrs. Chas. W. N. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. H. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. M. C. 20 00	31 Mrs. W. B. S. 25 00
28 Orphs. of Michael C. 20 00	31 Mrs. R. W. 20 00
28 Mrs. Paul R. D. 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. J. 15 00
28 Mrs. J. B. R. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Thos. P. 10 00
28 Mrs. J. B. C. 40 00	31 Mrs. Jas. C. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Mat. G. V. 10 00	31 Mrs. W. W. S. 10 00
28 Orphs. of R. J. McA. 15 00	31 Mrs. Wm. P. 20 00
28 Mrs. Jno. V. 15 00	31 Mrs. Thos. G. H. 10 00
28 Bro. Philander M. 25 00	31 Mrs. Jno. K. 10 00
28 Mrs. Wm. R. 20 00	31 Bro. Walter H. 50 00
28 Mrs. Jas. H. H. 15 00	31 Mrs. W. J. A. 20 00
28 Mrs. Jas. M. 15 00	31 Bro. W. A. R. 50 00
28 Mrs. F. B. 10 00	31 Mrs. R. R. G. M. 20 00
28 Mrs. Wm. McB. 20 00	31 Mrs. Arthur W. 15 00
28 Mrs. Geo. H. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. S. Z. 10 00	31 Mrs. S. H. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Albert E. B. 20 00	31 Orphs. of Jno. D. 25 00
28 Bro. L. W. W. 50 00	31 Mrs. J. P. McD. 20 00
28 Mrs. Andrew R. 20 00	31 Mrs. F. E. 10 00
28 Mrs. Levi N. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Alex. M. 10 00	31 Mrs. W. E. J. 10 00
28 Mrs. Joshua B. 15 00	
28 Bro. Jos. B. 50 00	April.
28 Mrs. Wm. P. 10 00	30 Orphs. of Sir N. H. B. 20 00
28 Mrs. Chas. B. 20 00	30 Mrs. Aaron B. 20 00
28 Mrs. L. G. C. 10 00	30 Miss M. H. H. 18 75
28 Mrs. Thos. R. 10 00	30 Orphs. of Jno. R. S. 20 00
28 Mrs. Peter S. 10 00	30 Miss Mary W. 75 00
28 Mrs. David R. 10 00	30 Bro. Edward G. 50 00
28 Mrs. Wm. R. 15 00	30 Mrs. W. M. W. 37 50
28 Mrs. Erastus K. 10 00	30 Mrs. H. R. 15 00
28 Mrs. Robt. C. 15 00	30 Mrs. Robt. W. 10 00
28 Mrs. Jas. L. Y. 10 00	30 Mrs. A. K. 30 00
28 Orphs. of Jno. J. 10 00	30 Mrs. H. L. K. 10 00
28 Bro. Hy. N. 40 00	30 Mrs. A. G. 10 00
28 Mrs. Adam P. 10 00	30 Mrs. David R. 10 00
28 Bro. Hy. B. 25 00	
28 Mother of Samuel D. 20 00	May.
28 Mrs. Geo. G. 5 00	31 Mrs. Thos. B. 10 00
28 Mrs. Walter H. 20 00	31 Mrs. Leslie W. 20 00
28 Mrs. Thos. G. S. 10 00	31 Bro. Jas W. 25 00
March.	31 Mrs. Thos. E. 10 00
31 Mrs. John B. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jas. J. D. 10 00
31 Mrs. Wm. H. S. 10 00	31 Mrs. Jno. M. S. 25 00
31 Mrs. Chas. G. 15 00	
31 Mrs. Jos. M. 10 00	Total. \$9,830 00

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraff, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received, considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I have the honor of presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in Erie District, No. 1, during the past year, and while I do so, allow me to extend my thanks to the brethren of this district for their expression of confidence in me in electing me unanimously to the high position of D. D. G. M. My first appointments were Rev. Wm. Patterson, Leamington, Chaplain of the district, and A. T. Boles, Secretary of the same.

Having been called upon to fill the position of D. D. G. M. of Erie District, No. 1, I am free to state that I have derived a great amount of pleasure from the universal support and uniform kindness which have been extended to me in every portion of the district. The question of affiliation of non-affiliate Masons was discussed in nearly every lodge, and much good may be the result. Before commencing my official work for the year I issued a circular to each lodge in the district notifying them of my appointment, and also notified each lodge in ample time of the date of each official visit, which perhaps accounted in some manner for the good attendance which usually greeted me. I have visited each lodge in the district once and some oftener, with the exception of one whose work was inspected at the Lodge of Instruction held at Ridgetown on March 6th. Fraternal visits between members of different lodges I have encouraged, as by this means a greater degree of uniformity and perfection can be obtained. The financial

standing through the whole district is good and harmony prevails.

FRATERNAL.

In conjunction with our honored Deputy Grand Master, R. B. Hungerford, of London, I visited Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, on the evening of October 6th. P. D. D. G. M's. Wm. Milner and Paine performed the beautiful work of raising two candidates to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in a highly satisfactory manner. Many visiting brethren were present and all enjoyed the banquet which followed and the kind hospitality which is so characteristic of our Windsor brethren.

DEDICATION.

The new home of Parvain Lodge, No. 395, Comber was dedicated on June 21st with all the ancient rites and ceremonies. The brethren of Parvain Lodge deserve to be congratulated upon the beautifully appointed, luxuriously furnished and commodious rooms which will form the future home of the craft in Comber. The dedicatory services were performed by D. G. M. R. B. Hungerford, assisted by the D. D. G. M. in District No. 1, P. D. D. G. M's J. B. Rankin, T. C. McNabb, Chatham; J. G. Liddell, Brantford; W. Bros. Piper, Irwin, Newhill and others of the district. The banquet which followed in the evening well sustained the reputation which the Comber brethren long ago earned for themselves that they are not only enthusiastic Masons, but successful in the fine art of entertaining.

DISPENSATIONS.

Aug. 5, 1898—Granted a dispensation to Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden, for the purpose of attending the funeral of Bro. J. Shaw, July 31st.

Dec. 20—To Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, to attend church clothed as Masons.

Dec. 29—Dispensation granted to Pynx Lodge, No. No. 312, Wallaceburg, to attend divine service clothed as Masons.

Jan. 5, 1899—Granted a dispensation to Wellington Lodge, No. 46, to attend divine worship, Jan. 8, 1899, clothed as Masons.

Jan—To Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, to install officers, Jan. 20.

Jan. 20—To Rodney Lodge, No. 411, to install officers.

June 23—To Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, to attend divine service clothed as Masons.

June 25—To Windsor Lodge, No. 403, Windsor, to attend divine service.

June 29—Kent Lodge, No. 274, Blenheim, to attend divine service on Sunday, July 9th.

TIME OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

It is desirable that the time of election of officers should be changed so that all the lodges elect their officers in June. The fact that the D. D. G. M. comes into office in the middle of the official year of most of the private lodges, compels him to visit them during the latter half of the year, and thus throws the whole year's work almost entirely into the last six months.

FRATERNAL DEAD.

We view with sadness the loss of several of our brethren from among us during the last year. St. George's Lodge, Kingsville, mourns the loss of Bro. E. Harris; Leamington deplores the death of Bro. Henry Sufflemoire, whose sad death by accident caused all to mourn. Star of the East suffered in the death of W. Bro. McPherson; Sydenham the loss of Bro. J. Shaw; Great Western, Bro. Jas. Park; and others have fallen by the hand of the grim reaper; but, though they are dead, yet they still speak, by the example of their words and actions, and would have us remember that there is a land where the word farewell is never uttered, and parting is unknown.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Through the courtesy of the brethren of Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, I held a Lodge of Instruction at that place on March 6th. A large number of the brethren from various parts of the district and other places were present. The work consisted in doing the three degrees. W. Bro. A. G. Kennedy and staff, Ridgetown, opened the lodge, after which W. Bro. H. Bailey and officers of Highgate Lodge, No. 336, conferred the Entered Apprentice degree in a splendid manner. W. Bro. Howe and staff, Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245, Thamesville, worked the second or Fellow Craft degree

in good form. In the evening P. M. Bro. J. C. Locke and officers of Howard Lodge, No. 391, raised the candidate to the third or Master Mason's degree, thereby conferring great credit upon themselves by the correctness of their work.

Many distinguished brethren were present and entered heartily into the discussion which followed, among others I might mention: R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London; R. W. Bro. J. A. C. Anderson, Ridgetown; W. Bro. Middleditch, Ridgetown; W. Bro. R. Teetzel, Highgate; W. Bro. A. J. Brown, Comber; W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, Leamington; W. Bros. E. Smith and J. Davidson, Thtamesville, and many others. The brethren of Ridgetown are noted for their kind hospitality, and they certainly maintained their reputation by entertaining their guests in a manner suitable to the occasion.

OFFICIAL VISITS

The evening of November 28th found me on my official visit to Lorne Lodge, No. 282, Glencoe. The work for the evening consisted in conferring the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees. W. M. French occupied the chair and did the work in an acceptable manner. An enthusiastic evening was spent among the brethren, who certainly are filled with the proper Masonic spirit. A nice lunch at midnight brought my first visit to a close.

The brethren of Kent Lodge, No. 274, Blenheim, having elected their officers on the evening of Dec. 26, and upon invitation from them I made my official visit and at the same time performed the ceremony of installation, assisted by P. M's. Dr. Jamieson, Crookshanks, Wilson and others.

The personnell of their officers is exceedingly high, and, under the able direction of the present W. M., R. L. Gosnell, assisted by his staff of officers, success will surely attend their efforts. The night being very stormy, yet a large number of the brethren turned out, many from the outlying districts, thus showing the deep interest the members take in the welfare of the lodge.

Though the evening of January 20th set in with inclement and blustering weather, the brethren of Highgate Lodge, No. 336, Highgate, attended their lodge in large numbers, there being nearly forty brethren in attendance. It was the first regular meeting for the new

W. Master and his officers, but they performed the opening and closing in the three degrees in a highly creditable manner. This lodge contains a number of well-informed Masons, and they have developed a spirit of discussions which should be patterned after by some of the different lodges of the district.

Naphtali Lodge, No. 413, Tilbury, was visited by me on the evening of 24th January. W. Master McGee occupied the chair. This beautiful lodge room is a model of neatness and modern design, and with such a home for themselves the Masonic brethren of Tilbury may look forward with every anticipation of success. The officers are up to date, doing their work with accuracy and precision, and take a great interest in the craft.

Upon invitation from the brethren of Rodney lodge, No. 411, Rodney, I installed the W. Master and officers, and at the same time made my official visit on the evening of January 25th. Through the devastations of influenza, there was not a very large number of the brethren present, but among those who were present was a goodly number of Past Masters, also P. D. D. G. M. Jelly, who so creditably filled the position of D. D. G. M. some few years ago. The beautiful ceremony of installation being completed, and after some discussion of the work, during which many opinions were expressed, the brethren adjourned to the Patterson House and did ample justice to a sumptuous banquet.

Windsor Lodge, No. 403, Windsor, enthusiastically welcomed the representatives of Erie District, No. 1, on the evening of February 17th. The W. M., C. Koellen, and officers conferred the sublime degree of a Master Mason upon a candidate. There was a large number of visiting brethren present from Detroit, and other Canadian and American cities, also a large number of members from Windsor and Great Western Lodges. The degree work being completed, a discussion ensued, which was participated in by a P. D. D. G. M. of Windsor Lodge and several Past Masters, which was no doubt both interesting and instructive. A pleasant time was spent in the banqueting hall later on, where all appeared to enjoy themselves. P. D. D. G. M's. E. Allworth, W. Milner, E. Wigle, P. M's. Rodd, Kenning, Hall and others graced the occasion with their presence.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245, Thamesville. This lodge has officers in control who thoroughly understand the

manner in which the work should be done and who see that it is properly carried out. I inspected their work in the Fellow Craft degree at the Lodge of Instruction, Ridgetown, on March 6th, and was very much pleased. The affairs of the lodge are in a good state. Discipline is of a high order, and I feel quite sure that a bright and prosperous future await the brethren of Tecumseh lodge.

Central Lodge, No. 402, Essex, was visited February 22nd. Although a stormy night the brethren responded in goodly numbers. There being no work on for the evening, the lodge was opened to the three degrees and closed. A general discussion followed. Many interesting points were brought out to the advantage of the brethren present. Central Lodge is doing good work.

I visited Howard Lodge, No. 391, Ridgetown, on March 6th, by whom I was indeed heartily welcomed. The officers are well posted in the work. They exemplified the third degree in a very satisfactory manner. The books are carefully kept. Masonry is flourishing in this lodge and its prospects are exceedingly bright.

Thistle Lodge, No. 34, is justly proud of the history of the lodge and the historical reminiscences which surround it. I found this lodge on my official visit, March 21st, in a quiet state, but with anticipation of success in the future. There being no degree work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. Various parts of the work were discussed and criticized. W. Bro. Hobley, M. D., being unavoidably absent, a P. M. occupied the east very acceptably indeed.

March 30th found me at Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor. This is one of the best working lodges in the district, and under the splendid management of the present Master, W. Bro. D. L. Carley and his very efficient staff of officers, the first degree was exemplified in capital form. The officers are enthusiastic in the discharge of their respective duties, while the members show the true and proper Masonic spirit. The attendance from over the river was very large, various lodges being represented both from the city and state, while numerous Canadian towns were also represented. I am indebted to the W. M. of Great Western Lodge, P. D. D. G. M. Paine and P. M. Ouamby for assistance in performing the ceremony of healing on several candidates during the evening.

I am pleased to note the accuracy to detail of the jun-

ior officers, promptness being one of their special features. The Wardens do their work very well indeed. A very pleasing event occurred in presenting P. M. George Quamby with a beautiful Past Master's jewel, containing a very brilliant diamond. The presentation was made by P. M. P. Craig, who, we were all pleased to note, had sufficiently recovered from his recent severe illness to be present. The social side of Masonry also is not forgotten, as we enjoyed a very fine spread after the arduous duties of the evening had been completed.

I paid my official visit to Parthenon Lodge, No. 267, Chatham, on the evening of April 5th. The attendance was not large, owing to the withdrawal and removal from the vicinity of several of their best officers. The working of the lodge is not what it has been in the past. R. W. Bro. T. C. McNabb, P. D. D. G. M., was present on this occasion and assisted in discussing and criticizing various parts of the work in general. I am happy to state that the prospects are getting brighter, and that Panthenon Lodge will very soon rank among the best lodges in the district.

April 17th found me at Wallaceburg. There are a great many enthusiastic Masons in this lodge. The work of the evening consisted in conferring the Entered Apprentice degree, which was successfully done by P. M. Bro. S. J. Davis. There is a general desire in this lodge not only to carry out the working of a Masonic lodge, but also those grand principles which form the bulwark of our order. The books of this lodge are especially well kept in a neat and concise form. Bro. E. Parker is a model Secretary.

I visited the Hammond Lodge, No. 327, Wardsville, on the evening of April 18th. The W. M. is assisted by a good staff of officers. On the whole the work is well done. Parts of the different degrees were exemplified, then discussed and criticized as presented. P. M. McKillop, M. D., was present and assisted in the general discussion. The outlook for Hammond Lodge is good and a bright future is certainly assured.

April 19th found me with the brethren of Star of the East, No. 422, Bothwell, by whom I was heartily welcomed. The W. M., Bro. McPherson, being very ill, was unable to attend. His absence and illness was lamented by all present. He has since passed to that unknown country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

The I. P. M., with a splendid staff of officers, worked the thiru degree. Special mention may be made of the work of the deacons, who certainly acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. This lodge shows the guiding hand of a master mind in the person of R. W. Bro. Hickey, who was present. The Secretary also is well worthy of mention.

April 20th, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Hickey, Bro. Mason and others of Star in the East, I visited Florence Lodge, No. 390, Florence. Through the courtesy of W. Bro. Brown, the ceremony of healing was performed. The W. Bro. also initiated two candidates into the Entered Apprentice degree. This lodge has good prospects ahead of it, and financially is in a good position to make satisfactory progress in the future.

I visited Leamington Lodge, No. 290, Leamington, on April 25th, and witnessed the exemplification by W. Bro. Wm. Irwin and officers of the second and third degrees. This lodge is noted for the very satisfactory progress it has made, especially under the supervision of W. Master Irwin, who has rapidly brought it along. By his energy and ability he has placed it in a good condition financially. The attendance is good and prospects excellent.

Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden, was visited officially by me on May 11th. I was very sorry to find W. M. Laird unavoidably absent, but P. M. Bentley occupied the chair and gracefully opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. P. D. D. G. M. J. Carscallen and P. M's. Wm. Switzer, McBean and others being present. Some time was spent in discussing the general floor work participated in by the officers. This lodge is in a prosperous condition and doing nicely.

Parvaim Lodge, No. 395. This lodge was visited by me officially on the 19th day of May. The brethren of Comber deserve great praise and are justly proud over their new hall, so tastefully furnished and appointed. On the evening of my official visit the second, or Fellowcraft, degree, was conferred upon Rev. Wm. Campbell, a bright and popular young Episcopal clergyman of the town. The W. M., (Bro. T. Warren, did the work in a very satisfactory manner. There is no doubt but that a splendid future is in store for the brethren of Comber.

McColl Lodge, No. 386, West Lorne. My official

visit was made to this lodge on May 23rd. There being no regular work on for the evening, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. P. M. Bro. McClain worked parts of different degrees. Criticisms were a feature of the evening's programme. P. M's. Stalker and McCall, after whom the lodge is named, and others, were present. The officers of this lodge are efficient and active in the discharge of their duties.

The evening of May 25th found me with the brethren of St. George's Lodge, No. 41, Kingsville, M. D., this able direction of W. M. Prosper D. White, M. D., this lodge is making rapid progress. The officers are all capable and do their work exceedingly well. The W. M. conferred the third degree in faultless style, the rendition of the work by him being well worth listening to, and won the admiration of all present. P. M. M. G. Heatherington and S. D. C. Cullen, Leamington Lodge, No. 290, were present. P. D. D. G. M. E. Allworth was also present and joined in the discussion, and showed that he had lost none of that pleasing manner which in days gone by had justly earned him the distinction of being one of the most popular D. D. G. M's. who ever ruled over District No. 1.

Wellington Lodge, No. 46, Chatham, claimed my presence on the evening of May 29th. W. M. Bro. Rev. Battersby being absent through illness, P. M. Turner took the lodge in hand, the work in the different degrees being exemplified. An interesting evening was spent by all present. A very cordial welcome was accorded our distinguished D. G. M., R. B. Hungerford, London, who accompanied me on this visit. Many brethren from a distance were present on this occasion, amongst others being W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, Georgina, No. 343, Toronto; Jas. Sutherland, Acacia, No. 61, Hamilton; Geo. Mitton, Howard, No. 361, Ridgetown; Chas. Crafts, Annabella, Florida; Dr. J. J. Davis and Wm. M. Drader, Tecumseh, 245, Thamesville. The standard of work in this lodge is good. The brethren will no doubt maintain the high reputation for work in the future as they have so well done in the past.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

Many thanks are due the brethren of the district for the kind acts extended to me during my official year. I have endeavored as far as possible in visiting a lodge

in which there was no regular work to take up parts of the different degrees with especial reference to the work of the Wardens and junior officers. Accuracy of work has been my aim, and after having made a close observation of the manner of doing the work by the various lodges throughout the district, I can assure the W. M's. and officers that nothing but constant practice and good discipline will enable them to become thoroughly acquainted with their respective duties, so that they may at all times acquit themselves as men and officers in Masonic lodges should. There is not a more beautiful sight than that of the officers of a lodge working together in harmony and enjoying the mutual respect and esteem of each other. I wish to thank the secretaries of the district for their promptness in answering all communications and in every way assisting me in the discharge of my duties, and I can truthfully state that they, as a rule, perform their duties carefully, as their minute books go to show. I would advise the W. M's. to be promptly at the lodge room at the appointed hour of opening, thus showing by their own example the way in which they expect the officers and members to follow. Masonry flourishes throughout the district. Its condition is not perfect in every detail, but still progressing and following its teachings ever onward and upward in the exemplification of those grand truths which are represented by the symbols of our order, and which go so far to promote social intercourse, upbuilding of character and the moral and intellectual development of the whole race.

All of which is courteously and fraternally submitted.

R. HILLIER, D. D. G. M.,

Erie District No. 1.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT NO. 2.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have much pleasure in herewith submitting my report on the condition of Masonry in St. Clair District, N. 2. for the year just ended.

My thanks are due to the brethren who a year ago elected me to the high office of District Deputy Grand Master for St. Clair District, No. 2, an honor which I esteem highly, and my appreciation of which I have sought to show by an effort to promote the welfare of the craft to the best of my ability throughout the district.

Rev. Bro. T. R. Davis, B. D., was appointed District Chaplain. A special effort was made to bring in demitted members, and to secure the return of those who were suspended for non-payment of dues, on terms fair to themselves and fair to their lodge. A circular letter was sent out by me early in the Masonic year to each of the lodges urging special attention to this object. In nearly every instance a committee was appointed by the lodge to carry out the suggestion, in many instances with beneficial results.

Some lodges have been highly prosperous; others have been moderately successful; one or two have done little work. It has been my aim to discover and to seek where practicable, by suggestion and advice, to remove the hindrances to progress. The year has, on the whole, been a prosperous one.

Most, if not all, of the lodges have been fortunate, I should rather say, have been wise in selecting the most intelligent and enthusiastic of their members as officers. A bright, painstaking and enthusiastic W. M., imbued with the spirit of Masonry, and appreciating its lessons, will bring out the members. If the secretary has the same qualities the lodge has the most important requisites for success. When the sublime truths of Masonry are em-

phasized in the work by the Master and his Wardens, the brethren are sure to be interested.

Punctuality in opening and closing is also a factor in the success of lodges. When the brethren know that work will begin promptly on time, and that they can be home at a reasonable hour, the attendance is improved. The sleepy lodges are seldom punctual.

The prompt collection of dues is also, I find, of moment. If they are allowed to fall into arrear the attendance dwindles, zeal abates, and the lodge grows weak. This is probably the most common obstacle.

The secretaries have, with rare exceptions, been all that could be desired.

A Lodge of Instruction was held under the auspices of Burns Lodge at Wyoming on the afternoon and evening of February 28th last. The weather was very unfavorable, but, notwithstanding, we had a fair attendance. W. Bro. S. W. Trusler, of Huron Lodge, Cam-lachie, assisted by the officers of that lodge, exemplified the first degree. The work was creditably done. Wor. Bro. Betts and the officers of St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges, were present, and exemplified the second degree, evidently to the satisfaction of the brethren present.

In the evening Wor. Bro. R. Coghlan, of Burns Lodge, Wyoming, assisted by the officers of that lodge, exemplified the third degree in an almost faultless manner. The criticisms and discussions which took place at the conclusion of each degree were instructive and profitable. It was to be regretted that the attendance was not larger. R. W. Bro. Harvey, on behalf of the lodges of the district, presented my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Sutherland, with a beautiful P. D. D. G. M's regalia, which evoked warm acknowledgments from the R. W. recipient.

Everywhere, and upon all occasions, the value of practice under the eye of a well-skilled brother has been enforced. That is the surest means, and, indeed, the only effective means, of improving the work. Its effects are almost instantly in evidence in the lodge room. When the brethren have confidence in their ability to work accurately, they can then effectually turn their attention to the important lessons the work is designed to impress, and so render it as to make it instructive and helpful, as it should be.

My warmest thanks are due the brethren for the hearty welcome everywhere extended to me, for the kindly spirit in which suggestion and criticism were invariably received, for the hospitable manner in which I was always entertained, and for the liberal provision made for my expenses. My duties were made light, and the labor a delight, by the brotherly reception I met with in every instance. The year is one I shall long remember. Dispensations were issued to Beaver Lodge, Strathroy, for an At-Home (by the M. W. the Grand Master) and by myself, to attend divine service, and for the latter purpose to Petrolea Lodge, No. 194, and also to St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mount Brydges.

Bismarck Lodge, Point Edward, No. 419 :

Visited this lodge at its regular November meeting. Point Edward is a railway village and the lodge is composed of railway men, who are liable to be called out on duty at any time. The W. M. and most of his officers were out on duty that night; so was the candidate. But, notwithstanding such drawbacks, the lodge is enthusiastic and does fair work. The genial and well-skilled secretary, R. W. Bro. B. F. George, is a host in himself, and does much for the craft. The W. M., Bro. MacKenzie, is a fair worker. The removal of the round-house to Sarnia and the prospective removal of many of the men in consequence, are giving the friends of Bismarck some concern. But the lodge has done good work in spite of serious hindrances in the past. I hope it will continue to do so.

Victoria Lodge, No. 56, Sarnia :

The past has been an unusually prosperous year, even for this prosperous lodge. It has been a growing time, and Victoria has grown steadily for several years past. Dr. F. B. Colter, as W. M., has not allowed the zeal to lag or interest to die out. At the last regular meeting seven applications were accepted. This was but a fitting conclusion to a successful year. Wor. Bro. Colter for a number of years served the lodge efficiently as Secretary. He did just as well in the east. His Worship the Mayor of the town, Bro. F. C. Watson, fills his old place as Secretary with great credit. Where so much is done the Wardens are naturally proficient, so also are the Deacons.

The lodge room, which is the common meeting place

of all the Masonic bodies in the town, has been tastefully refurnished in oak and upholstered with leather. It is now a very comfortable and pretty lodge room.

Forest Lodge, No. 263 :

Visited Forest Lodge Dec. 21st, 1898. A good attendance of officers and brethren. On looking over the register for the past year I was particularly struck with the regular attendance of a number of the Past Masters of the lodge. To the deep interest they take in its welfare can be attributed to a large extent its prosperity and the enthusiasm of its members. Wor. Bro. Hendry's record in this regard is especially worthy of emulation. He has been absent from only two meetings in ten years, and then his absence was occasioned by a well-earned holiday trip to the old country.

Wor. Bro. Flavin in the east has, during the year just closed, acquitted himself with credit. His work is careful and impressive. His successor, Wor. Bro. A. F. Steele, also does good work. The Wardens and the subordinate officers did their work with a fair degree of accuracy. The lodge, in common with most others in the district, promptly appointed a committee to carry out the suggestions contained in my circular already mentioned.

There were on the notice for the evening a first, a second and a third, also the annual election of officers. The election was marked by singular unanimity, the Wardens and the Senior Deacons being each promoted a step. While it must be always distinctly understood that the tenure of an office gives no claim to a promotion, efficiency in the lower post is good ground for advancement. I think the lodge showed sound judgment in the selections made. And I have no doubt that the new officers will prove efficient.

The first degree was done with care and a fair degree of accuracy. This lodge is in a prosperous condition, the room is neat and well furnished, the members fairly enthusiastic, the Past Masters zealous and attentive, and there is a good share of work to be done. The good attendance of bright young members augurs well for the future of the lodge. Here, as elsewhere, I sought to impress upon the brethren the real nature of Masonry, and the necessity of looking beyond ritual to the hidden meaning of its allegory and symbol, and of practicing its

fraternal, patriotic and moral teachings. On the conclusion of the first degree the hour was deemed too late to go on with the other degrees.

Bro. Campbell, the efficient Secretary, keeps his books with rare neatness and care.

There were seven Past Masters in attendance.

On the conclusion of the work an enjoyable hour was spent by the brethren in refreshment and social intercourse, for which I regret I could not remain.

Moore Lodge, No 294, Courtright :

Visited Moore Lodge on the evening of Dec. 22nd. The weather was very unfavorable; a heavy rain set in and prevented a full attendance. There was to be an initiation, but the candidate did not appear, so there was no work. The annual election of officers was the business of the evening. The officers elected are all bright young Masons who are quite enthusiastic in their work, and I am somewhat sanguine that the future of the lodge will be brighter than its history for some time past. A number of the chairs were filled by substitutes, owing to the absence of the regular officers. The opening and closing in the various degrees will, I doubt not, be much improved by practice.

After the lodge closed a pleasant social hour was spent.

Havelock Lodge, No. 238 :

Visited Havelock Lodge on the evening of the 24th of January. Owing to the prevalent epidemic of la grippe the attendance was not so large as it would have been, but there was a fair attendance of enthusiastic Masons, including R. W. Bro. James Newell, M. D., one of my predecessors in the office of District Deputy Grand Master, and Wor. Bro. A. Sanders, one of the most careful and exact workers in the district. The Junior Warden and the Senior Deacon were both ill, and unable to be present. The work was a passing. The degree was fairly well conferred by the W. M., Wor. Bro. W. B. Race. The lodge was then opened and closed in the third degree. Here, as elsewhere, I sought to impress upon the brethren that exactness in working, while highly desirable, was not the final goal to which Masonry leads, but that its sublime teachings, veiled in allegory and enshrined in symbol, were the pith and kernel of our esoteric art, and that to feel its influence

in moulding our lives and governing our conduct, especially with our brethren, was the end to which the work was a means, and that fidelity to the work was a means to that end.

This lodge is in a good healthy condition, the growth steady, the brethren harmonious and a number of them well skilled, the dues well paid up, and the outlook encouraging. The Secretary, Bro. David Watt, is a painstaking and efficient officer. The attendance of Past Masters is good, and they take a healthy interest in the work of the lodge, a circumstance which augurs well for its future.

After the lodge closed we repaired to the Roche House, where I was most hospitably entertained by the brethren. My recollections of Havelock Lodge are very pleasant.

Huron Lodge, No. 392, Camlachie :

Visited this lodge on the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 25th, 1899, the regular night of meeting. The work on the notice paper was an initiation, but the candidate, a railroad man, was away on duty. Wor. Bro. Brown, M. D., the W. M., opened and closed his lodge in the three degrees, and exemplified the first degree. The officers of the lodge are new to the work, this being the first meeting since their installation, but they are young and enthusiastic; many older and more experienced workers could learn a good deal from the way in which the work was done. I expect great things from Huron Lodge when its officers have had a little more practice. The W. M. is a correct and impressive worker, and he is ably assisted by his Wardens. The Junior Warden gave the lecture on the tracing board in an excellent manner, and the Deacons performed their part with credit.

The attendance was good, though a Burns concert in the village was a counter attraction. There was a large attendance of Past Masters, who seem to take a deep interest in their lodge. Among others was Bro. Fergus Kennedy, who for many years has been one of the pillars of Masonry in this locality. It was with deep regret that the brethren and I said farewell to Wor. Bro. Kennedy, who left the next day to take up his residence in the Northwest.

The officers of this lodge very wisely meet for practice and the results are evident in their work. I have striven

hard to make practice meetings of the officers universal throughout the district.

There is a prospect of a fair amount of work during the year, and the lodge, financially and otherwise, is in a healthy condition. The brethren own their lodge room, which is comfortably furnished, and, I may add, insured. The dues are all well paid up. The secretary discharges his duties faithfully and promptly.

V. W. Bro. J. M. Wilson, of Burns Lodge, Wyoming, was an interested and interesting visitor during the evening. Commendation rather than criticism was the tenor of his comments on the evening's work. Any shortcomings or slips owing to the newness of the work were pointed out privately to the Master and to the Wardens concerned.

A most enjoyable evening was spent, and at the conclusion of the work we adjourned to the hotel, where the brethren spent a social hour over the festal board and in pleasant companionship.

Burns Lodge, No. 153. Wyoming :

Visited this lodge on the evening of Thursday, Jan. 26th, at the regular meeting. Wor. Bro. Robert Hart in his proper place as Master, Senior Warden, Bro. Brodie, M. D., and Junior Warden, Bro. Benest, and the deacons in their place. I also had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bros. Dr. Harvey and Robert Scott, the latter with a half dozen of his brethren having driven over from Petrolia. The night was a very unfavorable one, the mercury below zero, with a snow storm and high wind. The attendance was about fifty. Burns Lodge is always enthusiastic. Wor. Bros. Hunter (the I. P. M.), Coghlan, Wilson and others were, as usual, on hand, and took a keen interest in the work. The W. M. conferred a first degree and a second in a manner which, having regard to the fact that this was the first meeting since the installation and his first occupancy of the east, was highly creditable. The Wardens also deserve credit for the manner in which they performed their parts. The Stewards also received my commendation. This, I find, is one of the lodges where the W. M. meets his officers to practice the work under the supervision of one or the other of the Past Masters. Hence the excellent beginning. Doubtless before the end of the year the work will leave little more to desire.

The presence of a number of Past Masters, well skilled and full of enthusiasm, of whom R. W. Bro. Dr. Harvey is the senior, has had a good effect on the work in Burns lodge. After a discussion and the pointing out of some things which could be strengthened, we closed at a late hour, and adjourned to Bro. Witty's, where we did ample justice to a substantial repast.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, Oil Springs :

Visited this lodge March 30, 1899, at its regular meeting. The lodge is in good condition, with favorable prospects. One candidate, the son of the Secretary, was initiated and two applications were received. Four or five P. M's. were present. Wor. Bro. Parke, though a young Mason, is an enthusiastic one, and conferred the degree with spirit and ability. The Wardens did their work well. The J. W., Bro. Dewar, gave the lecture in good style, and the charge was not omitted. Some time was occupied in kindly criticism and useful discussion. The lodge owns its hall, and is in good shape financially. The Secretary keeps model books, and the dues are exceptionally well paid up, thanks to his attention to that important detail. I drove over from Petrolia, a dark night and bad roads, but a good attendance. An hour spent in fraternal intercourse around the festive board brought the brethren close together.

St. Clair Lodge, No. 425, Sombra :

I visited this lodge on the evening of April 25th, 1899, at a regular meeting. My visit was to have been paid a month earlier, but circumstances prevented my attendance. The W. M. Bro. W. McDonald was in the Master's chair. There was a fair attendance, about fifteen members being present, but there was no work on. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. A number of the regular officers were absent, which probably in part accounted for the rather numerous slips. With more practice the officers of this lodge would do excellent work. The new Secretary, Wor. Bro. T. C. Cowan, M. D., keeps his books in good shape and will, I have no doubt, get in the arrears of dues, which are rather large. The prospects of this lodge are fair.

A social time was pleasantly spent at the close of the lodge with refreshments and fraternal intercourse.

Cassia Lodge, No. 116, Thedford :

Visited this lodge on the evening of February 20th,

at a regular meeting. The work on the notice paper was a first degree, which was fairly well done by the Immediate Past Master, Wor. Bro. Nelson. The attendance was good. This is the Masonic home of that well-skilled Mason, R. W. Bro. Sutherland, my immediate predecessor, in the office of D. D. G. M. Under his vigilant care the old landmarks will be faithfully maintained. A large number of brethren from Forest and Arkona paid a fraternal visit to Cassia Lodge on the occasion.

For some time past there has been a lull in the work of this lodge, but its prospects are, I think, improving. The W.M., Wor. Bro. Caleb Kennedy, is a whole-souled and genial Mason of long experience, and I am looking for fresh vigor in Cassia.

St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mt Brydges :

Visited this lodge on the evening of Feb. 21st. I arrived somewhat late, having driven over from Strathroy, nine miles, through a heavy rain. There was no work on, but I found the brethren very profitably employed in practicing the second degree. A pleasant evening was spent, some criticisms made and suggestions given, which I doubt not were serviceable. There was a good attendance of brethren and Past Masters. With a little more attention to matters of detail, this lodge should do good work. The Secretary looks well after his duties.

After the work was done I was very hospitably and enjoyably entertained by the brethren.

Alvinston Lodge, No 323, Alvinston :

Visited this lodge on the evening of February 22nd. A good attendance of members, who cordially welcomed me. This is one of the best lodges in the district. Bro. J. B. Martyn, M. D., the W. M., is full of enthusiasm for Masonry, and though a young man and a young Mason, is so well skilled that the best in the district may look to their laurels. He was ably supported by his wardens and deacons. The first degree was conferred in an excellent manner, and the second, which followed it, was almost as good. The office of Secretary was just then vacant, but Bro. R. Code, who has since been elected to the office, discharges its duties well.

This is one of the lodges where the officers meet for practice and prepare carefully for all work. The effects

are plainly visible. I was delighted with my visit and with the hospitality of the brethren after the meeting.

Arkona Lodge, No. 307.

Visited this lodge on the 23rd of February, having driven over from Watford. There was a good attendance of brethren, including R. W. Bro. Sutherland, of Cassia Lodge. The lodge has sustained a slight decrease in membership during the year. The prices are fair. The Master of the lodge, Wor. Bro. F. Patterson, exemplified a first degree very creditably. There are a number of well-skilled brethren belonging to the lodge, of whom Wor. Bro. Thoman is the senior, and Arkona Lodge will still maintain its reputation for careful work.

The officers and brethren spent a pleasant hour or so over the festive board and in fraternal companionship after the meeting.

Beaver Lodge, No. 83, Strathroy :

Visited this lodge on the evening of March 3rd. The lodge room had been renovated with splendid results, and the interior is now one of the most attractive, if not the most attractive, in the district. There was an excellent attendance, including a goodly number of Past Masters. The work of the evening was a first degree, which was done by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Robertson, and his Wardens fairly well. R. W. Bro. Whitehead, P. D. D. G. M., was in attendance, this being his lodge. I regretted very much that Wor. Bro. Mallon, one of the old members of the lodge and one of the most ardent Masons in the district, was absent through illness. This lodge has done splendidly during the past year, and its prospects are very bright. An "At Home" was held under the auspices of the lodge in April, and the brethren also attended divine service in a body on June 25th, an example which I commend for imitation.

The wants of the inner man were duly considered, and mirth and song beguiled a jovial hour after the labors of the night.

Leopold Lodge, No. 397, Brigden :

Visited this lodge on the evening of March 15th. A fair attendance of members. The work was a third degree, which was conferred by the Master of the lodge, Wor. Bro. J. J. Jarvis. Having regard to the fact that this was the first occasion on which Wor. Bro. Jarvis

conferred this degree, it was done creditably. Some of the other officers were absent, and their substitutes did as well as could be expected in the circumstances. R. W. Bro. Ward was present. His keen interest in Leopold Lodge shows no sign of abating. The attendance of Past Masters is quite up to the mark. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. A. F. Wade, is the right man in the right place. The lodge is prosperous and its prospects good.

The brethren hospitably entertained their guest, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 437, Sarnia :

This is the youngest lodge in the district, but one of the most prosperous. To the zeal and energy of Wor. Bro. F. J. Winlow is largely due its prosperity. He was practically its founder, and he still keeps a watchful eye on all that concerns it. It has had a good share of work, which has been well done. The officers are efficient and careful workers, and meet frequently for practice. The W. M., Wor. Bro. J. Fowler, is a young Mason and a young man, but well skilled. He is ably assisted by Bro. A. Kidd, the Senior Warden, and Bro. Lucas, the Junior Warden.

I visited this lodge once officially, but frequently in an unofficial capacity. Its prospects are bright. The cordial good-will which exists between Victoria and Tuscan and the harmony with which they work together are as they ought to be.

Washington Lodge, No. 260, Petrolia :

It is always a source of enjoyment to visit one's Masonic brethren in Petrolia. The people of the Oil Town are noted for their hospitality; the Masonic brethren are cordiality itself. My visit to Washington Lodge was a pleasant reminder of many visits made to it when a member of Petrolia Lodge some years ago.

Wor. Bro. Belasco, in the east, will sustain the reputation of the lodge for good work, and he is ably assisted by his officers. The work for the evening was a second degree, which was well done. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. McHattie, looks well after the duties of his office. I regretted to find that the arrears of dues were larger than was desirable, but the W. M. and the Secretary were making a special effort to remedy this, and, I trust, successfully. The prospects of the lodge are good. The

relations of the two lodges, Petrolia and Washington, are all that could be desired.

Petrolia Lodge, No. 194, Petrolia :

Wor. Bro. W. D. Burgess is again Master of this lodge. As he was in the east some years ago, when I was one of his Wardens, it was with some diffidence that I paid him an official visit. This lodge being the Masonic home of R. W. Bros. Sinclair and Robert Scott, and a large number of other well-skilled Past Masters, it is never allowed to fall much in the rear in regard to correct work. A pleasant and, I trust, profitable evening was spent. The work, a first degree, was discussed, and some few errors pointed out. The lodge is in good condition, its finances well looked after and the outlook satisfactory.

The brethren refreshed the inner man and enjoyed themselves together after the meeting, where I was delighted to renew many old friendships. I am always delighted to visit this lodge, which I have always regarded as a model one.

Ionic Lodge, No. 328, Napier :

This lodge has not had a meeting for several years. My best efforts failed to arrange a meeting. The reported meetings for some years past consisted of two, three and four brethren. Early in the Masonic year I sought by correspondence and personal effort to bring the brethren together, but without avail. I do not see any use in continuing matters in this unsatisfactory state. It would be much better for Grand Lodge to call in the warrant of the lodge and mark it as defunct.

Dufferin Lodge, No. 364, Melbourne :

My last official visit in the district was paid to this lodge, the occasion being an emergent meeting on the evening of June 30th. To my surprise and delight there was a splendid attendance and a large number of visiting brethren from Mount Brydges, Delaware, Lobo and Strathroy.

There was no work one, but the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The work was capable of improvement in some particulars, which were pointed out. Wor. Bro. Pierce, his Senior Warden, Bro. James, M. D., and the Junior Warden, Bro. Sussex, are bright

and enthusiastic Masons, and with practice and a little more attention to detail, will, I doubt not, do excellent work. The prospects of this lodge are, I think, improving, and I think it has a fair share of prosperity in store for it.

Fraternally submitted.

A. WEIR,

D. D. G. M., St. Clair District, No. 2.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in The St. Clair District, No. 2, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of All Mem.			Degrees conf'd			Meet-ings held.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all Arreages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.			
		Increased during year.	Decreased during year.	Memb-ship.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.													
Number of Lodge.																				
56	Victoria	Sarnia	91	11	4	11	13	15	3	13	9	30	\$75 00	16	\$100 50	Dec. 27, '98	Very good	Very poor	Yes	
81	S. John's	Mt. Bridges	53	3	2	1	1	1	13	13	16	15	00	9	28 00	Feb. 22, '99	Good.	Fair.	Yes	
83	Beaver	Strathroy	90	17	1	10	5	1	13	3	16	10	00	0	200 00	June 24, '99	Exc'l't.	Very good	Yes	
116	Cassia	Thedford	39	1	8	1	1	1	9	1	10	8	00	5	6 00	June 24, '99	Good.	Fair.	Yes	
153	Burns	Wyoming	69	5	1	5	4	4	15	2	17	23	00	11	94 00	June 29, '97	Good.	Good.	No	
158	Alexandra	Red Springs	59	9	5	6	7	6	13	3	16	26	00	13	26 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	
194	Petrolia	Petrolia	88	4	3	3	2	4	11	11	23	20	00	4	115 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	
238	Havelock	Watford	53	3	3	4	4	4	13	13	13	15	00	4	15 00	June 24, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	
260	Washington	Petrolia	76	9	3	6	7	3	14	3	16	15	20	50	207 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	
263	Forest	Forest	33	4	1	6	5	5	13	1	14	30	00	2	73 00	June 29, '99	Good.	Bright.	Yes	
307	Arkona	Courtright	33	4	1	6	5	3	9	9	19	15	30	00	5	37 75	Feb. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
383	Alvinston	Alvinston	51	4	5	4	4	4	13	11	17	57	00	0	61 83	Dec. '98	Good.	Fair.	Yes	
388	Ionic	Napier	53	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	9	8	00	8	50 00	June 1, '98	Good.	Very poor	No	
394	Dufferin	Melbourne	88	1	1	1	1	1	14	4	18	16	00	33	44 00	June 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	
398	Huron	Cambridge	50	3	1	1	1	1	11	1	13	12	00	7	83 00	Jan. '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	
397	Leopold	Bridden	49	4	1	3	3	2	11	2	13	15	00	16	N't av'n	Dec. '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	
419	Bismarck	Pt. Edward	37	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	12	10	00	10	40 00	June 23, '99	Good.	Fair.	Yes	
485	St. Clair	Sombra	60	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	30	00	17	120 00	.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes
487	Tuscan	Sarnia	74	7	3	7	6	2	9	2	11	14	00	8	30 00	Dec. 24, '98	Very good	Good.	Yes	

LONDON DISTRICT NO. 3.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in No. 3 District :

The district contains twenty-six lodges, and I have had the pleasure of visiting each lodge once, and some of them twice. I am pleased to be able to report that Masonry in this district is in a very prosperous and satisfactory condition. I find that the work is done in nearly all of the lodges by the regular officers and is generally very well done, and in cases where I found any lack of efficiency I advised the holding of special meetings for rehearsal and instruction in the work, and to visit the neighboring lodges and get the rust rubbed off, as I am satisfied that fraternal visits are a great help to every lodge. The books of the several secretaries in the district are generally well and neatly kept. The dues in some of the lodges are nearly all paid up, showing that the secretaries are looking after the interests of the lodge. I am satisfied that if all the secretaries would look up the members and collect the dues closer there would be fewer suspensions for non-payment of dues.

I have impressed upon all the lodges the necessity of looking up the non-affiliates and try and get them back to the lodge, so as to do away with what appears to be a blot on our order. I take pleasure in thanking the brethren of the district for the kindness and courtesy they have always shown me on my official visits as the representative of the Grand Master, and at all other times, also for the hospitable manner in which I was always entertained, as all the lodges provided a very enjoyable supper and did everything to make my visit a pleasant one. I must also thank the brethren of the district for turning out so well on the occasion of the

Grand Master laying the corner stone of the new City Hall here on August 8th, 1898.

The question of initiating more than one candidate at a time came up and I applied to the M. W. the rGrand Master for his decision on the matter. He decided that only one could be initiated at a time, and I so advised the several lodges in the district.

I have granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend divine service: St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44; Moffat, 399; Merrill, 344; Henderson, 388, and St. David's, 302; and have remitted the fees in connection with same to Grand Secretary.

St. Thomas' Lodge, No. 44 :

My first official visit was to St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44, on Sept. 1st, 1898. There were 36 members and 8 Past Masters present, also visitors from St. David's, 302. The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. W. L. Wickett and his officers in as perfect a manner as is possible to do it. This lodge, for perfection of work and social intercourse, is second to none in the district. As this is the lodge to which I belong, I seldom miss a meeting, and although I have not visited this lodge officially this year, I am glad to say W. Bro. H. Roe and the officers for 1899 are maintaining the high standard of work for which the lodge is noted, and its future prospects are bright.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94.

October 11th, 1898, I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bro. J. S. Frazer, Bros. H. Roe and F. O. Lawrence. W. Bro. Dr. Mothersill occupied the chair. The offices were mostly filled pro tem. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. As there had been no meeting since May, they were all very rusty. They had one application for membership and I promised to visit them again, when I would expect to see them well up in their work. I visited this lodge again on Dec. 13th, accompanied by W. Bro. W. L. Wickett, when the second and third degrees were exemplified in a very fair manner, and I again impressed on them the necessity of more practice. With a little more energy on the part of the officers the prospects will improve. There is too much outstanding dues. I pointed out the necessity for collecting these and making themselves good on the books of the Grand Lodge.

Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 300 :

I visited this lodge Oct. 25th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bro. A. A. Campbell, of London. The W. M. being sick, the P. M., W. Bro. Dunlop, assisted by the other officers of the lodge, exemplified the second degree in a very fair manner. The prospects of this lodge seem to be good.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 394, Thamesford, Ont. :

Visited this lodge on Oct. 26th, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Essehy and Dambro, of London. There was a good attendance of the members and visitors, which satisfied me that this was a live lodge. The third degree was exemplified, and the work was well done, especially by the W. M., W. Bro. J. T. Lloyd. The prospects of this lodge are good. After the lodge was closed refreshments were prepared, but having to catch the train, we could not stay to assist at the fourth degree.

Merrill Lodge, No. 344, Dorchester Station :

Visited this lodge Oct. 27th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bros. J. Paull, Morgan, Chittick, Bro. Wood and others from London, also brethren from Harrietsville and Thamesford were present. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed severally in the first, second and third degrees by the W. M. and his officers in a very creditable manner, showing that, if there was work to do they were prepared to do it. This lodge is sound financially and otherwise.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, Lawrence Station :

Visited this lodge Nov. 4th, 1898, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer, and Bro. Roe, of St. Thomas ode, No. 44. This old Lodge appears to have taken on new life since they have moved to new quarters. I found they had six candidates balloted for and one candidate was raised to the third degree. The work was fairly well done, especially by the W. M., W. Bro. McCallum. The junior officers would be better with a little more practice and care in their several parts. The prospects of this lodge are good.

Cameron Lodge, No. 232, Dutton, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Nov. 23rd and found the members very late in getting to the lodge; so late, in fact, that it was after 9 p. m. before the lodge could be opened. A candidate was expected for initiation, but failed to put

in an appearance; but by request the W. M., Bro. J. Balkwell exemplified the first degree on a brother who offered for the purpose, and I am pleased to say the work was perfectly rendered by the W. M., although the junior officers were not so well posted. A little more energy on the part of the junior officers in support of the W. M., and this lodge could be made second to none.

Delaware Valley Lodge, No 358, Delaware, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Nov. 25th, accompanied by Bro. H. Roe, of St. Thomas, and found a number of visitors present from Mount Brydges, Lawrence Station and other places. Was also pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Harris, P. D. D. G. M. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and his officers in a very creditable manner. A little closer attention to the floor work by the junior officers would make the work more alive to the candidates, and more interesting to the members around the room.

St. George's Lodge, No 42, London, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Dec. 7 and received a very hearty reception, there being upwards of one hundred brethren present, including a large number of Past Masters, all of whom I was pleased to see, as I think that when P. M's. are regular in attendance at the lodge there is not much fear but that the lodge will prosper. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a very able manner; in fact, the officers seemed to vie with each other which would do the work the better. This being the annual meeting, the election of officers then took place, and from the officers elected nothing but good and true work should be seen in St. George's, 42. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition; the dues are well paid up and very few suspensions.

Malahide Lodge, No. 140. Aylmer, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Dec. 21st, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer, and several other brethren from St. Thomas. This is one of the best working lodges in the district, not only Masonically but socially, and as usual we received a very hearty reception. The first and second degrees were exemplified in a nearly faultless manner by the W. M. and the regular officers. I have no doubt that by the regular attendance of R. W. Bro. Rutherford and the other Past Masters, the officers

are kept up to the standard the lodge has held for many years.

Belmont Lodge, No 190, Belmont, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Dec. 23rd, accompanied by W. Bros. Frazer, McCully and Roe and several other brethren of St. Thomas. There was a good attendance of the brethren present. The first and third degrees were exemplified, and while the officers seemed to know the work, it was but very imperfectly done. I advised them to get together oftener and rub the rust off and visit their neighbors a little, thereby become more proficient. The dues are well paid, showing that R. W. Bro. Boyd is attending to his duty.

St David's Lodge, No 302, St. Thomas, Ont. :

I visited this Lodge January 19th. There was a good attendance of the brethren present. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a fairly creditable manner; not quite as impressive as it might have been perhaps by the W. M. The charge in the first degree was well rendered by the J. W. The rest of the officers acquitted themselves fairly well. I visited this lodge again on May 18th, when a slight improvement was seen in the work. This lodge is in good circumstances financially and otherwise, and prospects good.

Henderson Lodge, No. 388, Ilderton, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Jan. 23rd, 1899. Ten members were present, with several visitors from Doric Lodge, 280, and other places. Two candidates were initiated, and the work was fairly well done, considering it was the first time the officers had conferred any degree for a long time.

Nilestown Lodge, No. 345, Nilestown, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Jan. 24th, accompanied by the officers of St. George's Lodge, of London, who conferred the third degree on a candidate in a first-class manner. There was a good turnout of the officers and members of Corinthian Lodge, of London. The W. M. and officers of Nilestown Lodge initiated one candidate, and I was well pleased with the way it was done, especially the manner in which the lecture was given on the tracing board by the J. W. The lodge has 28 members. The average attendance is good.

Union Lodge No. 380, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge Feby. 14th. There was a good attendance of the brethren of this lodge and visitors from other city lodges. The first and second degrees were exemplified by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a very creditable manner. This lodge has a membership of 110, with the prospect of a large increase. The outlook for 380 is bright. The books and finances of the lodge are well looked after by the efficient Secretary, Bro. Ward.

Warren Lodge, No. 120, Fingal.

I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bros. Wickett and Frazer. There were also visitors from Prince of Wales Lodge, Lawrence Station. A candidate was passed to the second degree by the W. M., Bro. Norman and the officers of the lodge in a very creditable manner. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. I am pleased to say that Warren Lodge is making better progress the last year or two. This lodge owns the building occupied by them.

St Paul's Lodge, Lambeth, Ont. :

Visited this lodge Feby. 22nd, but on account of very bad roads there was a small attendance, but I was pleased to meet some of the London brethren, among whom were W. Bros. Paul and Wood. There being no candidate present, although one was expected, the W. M. and the officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, which was very well done. I was invited to pay this lodge another visit when there was work to be done, but I could not be present on that occasion.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 330, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge on March 7th. There was a very large turn out of the members and visitors, there being no less than 17 Past Masters in attendance. This is one of the live lodges of the city. W. Bro. Blanchard and his officers raised one candidate in an excellent manner, and fully sustained the reputation this lodge has had for many years past of doing good work.

St. John's Lodge, No. 20, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge March 14th. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The first degree was exemplified on one candidate in a fairly creditable manner by the W. M. and his officers. This lodge finan-

cially is one of the best in the district, having about \$1.-500 to their credit. The dues are not paid up as well as they ought to be, but probably by this time they are collected up closer.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 378, London, Ont. :

Visited this lodge March 17th. A candidate was passed to the second degree in as perfect a manner as it is possible to do it. This lodge, under the care of W. Bro. Andrewes and his staff of officers, is sure to prosper. There was a good attendance of the members, among whom was R. W. Bro. J. Simpson, P. D. D. G. M., who is always in attendance. I had the honor of presenting a beautiful Past Master's pewel to Past Master W. Bro. Webber, who has been a very faithful officer of the lodge for some years past.

Moffat Lodge, No. 399, Harrietsville, Ont. :

I visited this lodge March 22nd. About twenty-two Masons were present, including visiting brethren from Nilestown, Belmont and Dorchester. The third degree was exemplified on a candidate in a very creditable manner by W. Bro. McKee and his officers. Two applications were received. Altogether the prospects of this lodge are better than they have ever been before, so far as I could learn. The evening was very wet, which accounted for the small attendance.

Tuscan Lodge, No 195, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge April 3rd and was pleased to meet such a good turn out of the members and visitors. W. Bro. W. A. Yound and his officers conferred the first degree in an almost faultless manner. There were also four applications received. The prospects for this lodge are good, and the Secretary, R. W. Bro. Brodrick, is the right man in the right place, for he has the dues all collected but \$32.50, which is a good showing for a lodge of sixty-five members.

Kilwinning Lodge, No 64, London, Ont. :

I visited this lodge on April 20th. There was a very large turn out of the members and brethren of the city present, among whom were R. W. Bros. Munson, Dewar and Greer. The second degree was conferred on a candidate, but owing to the Senior Warden not having his work up, especially the lecture in the second degree, the work was not done as well as it should have

been. The W. M., W. Bro. Scandrett, is a painstaking officer, and I have no doubt that he will see all his officers post themselves, as they ought to, in the future. After the fourth degree the Rev. Evans Davis, P. G. Chaplain, delivered a very fine address on the aims and objects of Masonry, which was listened to with great interest by all present.

I visited this lodge again on May 18th, being invited to see degree work, but instead of conferring degrees the whole evening was taken up by discussing matters which, if the W. M. had a little more tact and firmness, would not have been allowed to exist fifteen minutes. If the Past Masters who bring up such trivial matters would assist the W. M. in the proper working of the lodge the interests of the lodge would be better served and less fear of a good lodge being ruined by such tactics.

St. John's Lodge, No. 209a, London, Ont :

I visited this lodge 21st April and there was a very large attendance. This being one of the lodges which is allowed to work the Irish work, as it is called, brought out over one hundred and fifty members and visitors, among whom were the D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Hungerford, R. W. Bros. Dewar, Munson and Cooper. The third degree was exemplified by the M. W., W. Bro. White and his officers in a faultless manner. The officers of this lodge must certainly give a good deal of time to details, which go to make the work go so smoothly. The candidate was well posted and gave his answers intelligently and promptly. Taken altogether, this is one of the brightest lodges in the district.

Doric Lodge, No. 289, Lobo, Ont. :

I visited this lodge May 26th, accompanied by W. Bros. Kingston, Morris and Toll, of London. There being no work to be done, I requested the Master to open and close the lodge in the three degrees, which was fairly well done, considering that that was the first attempt since installation. I pointed out to them the need of more practice, asking them to get together for rehearsal often, so as to become more perfect in the work, as only by so doing the standard of the lodge could be kept up.

Middlesex Lodge, No. 379, Bryanston, Ont. :

I visited this lodge May 26th, accompanied by R W.

Bro. Cooper, of London. This lodge consists of twenty-seven members, ten being present. The regular officers, with the exception of the W. M. and Secretary, were absent, the work of the evening being done by the Past Masters present. One candidate was raised to the third degree, but the work was not at all up to the mark, not going off with smoothness that would impress a candidate with the high standard of a Masonic lodge. I pointed out to the members present the necessity of the officers being present more often for rehearsal, so as to make a better showing in the future.

Fraternally submitted,

SAMUEL DUBBER, D. D. G. M.,

London District, No. 3.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in London District, No. 3, from June 94th, 1898, to June 94th, 1899.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	Mem-ber-ship.	Degrees conferred.	E. A.	F. M.	M. M.	Artiliations.	Restorations.	Suspensions.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Deaths.	Regular.	Emergency.	Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
44	St. Thomas	152	14	5	10	9	6	1	3	14	7	31	30	525	00	348	25	Dec. 27, '98	\$900 00	Good.	Yes	\$800 00	Good.	Yes	Yes share	\$300 00
20	St. John's	171	8	3	3	4	1	1	8	9	17	41	30	110	00	400	00	Dec. 31, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes with et. at lodge.	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
43	St. G. org's	122	8	11	6	6	1	1	3	13	13	30	40	00	3	15	00	Dec. '97	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
208	St. John's	179	3	7	9	6	1	1	3	12	9	50	46	55	00	56	75	June 8, '99	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
195	Tucan	78	9	4	4	4	1	1	3	11	11	17	32	30	5	00	50	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
378	King Sol'n	73	5	1	4	4	1	1	1	11	11	25	65	40	00	33	185	July, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
380	Union	118	5	15	10	13	1	1	6	13	14	24	94	65	00	33	117	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
330	Corinthian	93	4	5	5	5	1	1	1	13	13	30	90	55	00	25	90	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
94	St. Mark's	24	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	9	9	11	50	5	18	June, '97	Fair.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
345	Nilestown	81	4	7	6	6	1	1	1	12	12	20	14	119	50	5	00	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
140	Malabide	97	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	14	10	00	23	72	July, '98	Go d.	No	Yes	Go d.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
300	Mt. Olivet	39	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	11	10	5	00	00	00	June, '98	Fair.	Yes	Yes	Go d.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
358	Del. Valley	36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	14	10	5	00	00	00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Go d.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
338	Cameron	33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	6	00	4	18	00	June, '99	Not good	Yes	Yes	Not good	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
130	Warren	33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	10	12	13	00	00	00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
190	Belmont	27	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	13	13	10	00	00	00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
359	Moffat	24	6	5	4	4	2	1	1	14	14	16	25	30	25	151	00	Aug. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
302	St. David's	99	9	6	4	5	1	1	1	11	11	12	12	10	35	30	151	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
969	Doric	49	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	12	10	30	19	76	00	June, '99	Fair.	No	Yes	Not bright	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
379	Middlesex	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	10	10	8	10	15	58	March, '99	Fair.	No	Yes	Not bright	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
394	King Sol'n	57	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	13	10	10	10	15	58	Feb. '99	Fair.	No	Yes	Not bright	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
64	Kilwinning	159	23	19	8	8	3	1	2	13	13	14	35	80	00	12	120	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
171	Prof. Wales	40	1	5	4	4	2	1	2	12	12	16	10	75	00	4	12	June, '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
107	St. Paul's	51	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	13	13	14	20	75	00	4	12	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
344	Merrill	29	5	3	1	2	3	1	2	11	11	12	10	1	00	1	00	Dec. '98	Good.	Yes	Yes	Good.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

Allow me respectfully to submit for your consideration the report of the condition of Masonry in the 4th Masonic District, South Huron.

It is with pleasure that I look back to the last meeting of Grand Lodge when my brethren of this district elected me to the honorable position of D. D. G. M., but it is with still greater pleasure that I reflect upon the many opportunities I have enjoyed of meeting these brethren within the walls of their several rooms; and let me say if the brethren of this district have received that benefit from my visits, which I myself have derived from my association with them, I feel that much good has been done; that the principles we ever endeavor to inculcate are better understood, our consciences quickened and our resolutions strengthened to carry out the grand and noble precepts of our beloved order. I have officially visited every lodge in the district, and when it was not convenient for me to meet them on the night of their regular meeting, they have kindly held emergency meetings, for which I am grateful. I find the work throughout the district uniformly well done. There is not a worshipful Master in any lodge who cannot work all of the degrees. The greatest harmony prevails, which is clearly demonstrated by there not being one instance of a misunderstanding reported to me; and this may be attributed largely to the efficient manner in which the officers govern their respective lodges, as I know they are men of high moral standing and well qualified to occupy that dignified and honorable position where so much delicacy and tact is required. I have held no Lodges of Instruction, as the work throughout the district is so well done I felt it to be un-

necessary to impose this expense on any one of the lodges.

I would recommend to Grand Lodge that they make it obligatory on every lodge in the district to bear their fair share of the expense when a Lodge of Instruction is thought by the D. D. G. M. to be necessary.

I issued dispensations to Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell; Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford; New Dominion Lodge, No. 205, New Hamburg; and Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford; the fees for which I remitted to the Grand Secretary.

VISITS

Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden: On the evening of Sept. 2nd, accompanied by a number of the members of Stratford and Tecumseh Lodges, Stratford, I visited this lodge. W. Bro. F. Holwell, W. M., is a painstaking and efficient officer, and one who does credit to Wilmot Lodge. The other officers, while faithful to their duties, hardly have practice enough to keep them familiar with the work. However, a candidate for initiation being presented, the ceremony was conducted in a fairly creditable manner. These brethren seem to understand that Masonry is a great moral and social institution. They certainly demonstrate their belief in the social side in a most unbounded manner. They are known as lavish entertainers. large-hearted, generous and good Masons.

New Dominion, No. 205, New Hamburg: I visited this lodge on October 3rd, when I was again accompanied by a large number of the brethren of Tecumseh and Stratford Lodges. It has been my good fortune to have been a visitor at New Dominion for the past few years, on the occasion of the official visits of the D. D. G. M., and let me say that I cannot express to you the improvement that has taken place in the work in this lodge. W. Bro. Halley, W. M., raised a candidate to the third or sublime degree of a Master Mason. The whole work was done in a perfect manner. For good work New Dominion stands very high in South Huron District. After the lodge closed we all gathered around well-laden and tastefully decorated tables, where a most enjoyable time was spent.

Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford: I officially visited this lodge at the regular meeting in Novem-

ber. This is the sister lodge of that to which I belong (Tecumseh), and as I am a frequent visitor, I am therefore in a position to say that the work is at all times well done. On this occasion W. Bro. H. J. Powell, W. M., worked the third degree in an excellent and creditable manner. All of the officers are capable of doing good work. The brethren turned out in large numbers and displayed that loyalty to the craft which is so much to be desired among Masons, and which the brethren of this city have usually exhibited. I feel that there is no place under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge where the true spirit of Masonry is better exemplified than in this city of Stratford, where the members of two strong lodges meet together as one in love and harmony to promote the best interests of our beloved order. I was pleased to have with me W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, of Zeta Lodge, Toronto.

Clinton Lodge, No. 84, Clinton: I visited this lodge on Feby. 17th. Bro Joseph Rattenburg, an old friend of mine, was raised to the third degree. The work was done in an admirable and impressive manner. A brother who at the previous meeting had been raised to the Sublime degree was examined in the work, and the perfect way in which he answered more than the necessary questions, reflected great credit on the lodge. This was more noticeable, as in some of the lodges the candidates are not required to perfect themselves in this respect. I feel that no man can have a proper appreciation of Masonry who is not made to memorize what we consider the obligatory part of the candidate's work. This lodge has been fortunate in selecting officers. W. Bro. Oliver Johnston makes an ideal Master. All of the officers do their work well. R. W. Bro. Shaw, P. D. D. G. M., who is a member of this lodge, is ever ready and does give the brethren the benefit of his mature Masonic knowledge. The arrearage of dues is a little more than it should be, but the lodge is financially in good shape.

Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan: Accompanied by a number of the brethren of the Stratford lodges, I visited this lodge on the evening of Feby. 23rd. For some years this lodge has not shown that Masonic life and progress we would naturally hope for. The officers and members constitute the best men in the community and the kind of material that the best lodges are made of. W. Bro. M. Thompson makes a very excellent Master.

He is one who is held in the highest regard by all of the members of the lodge. On this occasion a candidate was initiated, but, with the exception of the Senior Warden, the Master did not receive the support he so well deserves. These brethren were most generous in their hospitality. I am most hopeful for the future of Irving Lodge. This year they have taken in some bright young members. They are financially in good shape. Dues fairly well paid, for which much credit must go to the Secretary, Bro. Matheson R. W. Bro. Tiernay, of Blyth, P. D. D. G. M., was present.

Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth: I visited this lodge on March 6th., W. Bro. Jackson, W. M., in the chair. A candidate being in readiness, was initiated, the work being done by every officer with promptness and absolute correctness. The Junior Warden's lecture, given by Bro. L. Jackson, was highly appreciated by all. I found only \$12 of arrears in books. In Bro. J. O. Rose, the Secretary, Britannia has a prize. For general proficiency I must award to this lodge first place, each officer seeming to vie with the other in the performance of their duties. The Past Masters are most diligent in their duties to Masonry and have a live interest in lodge matters. On this occasion there were present fifteen Past Masters and five Grand Lodge officers. In particular I must mention as being most devoted to their lodge R. W. Bro. Hodgins and W. Bro. John Reid.

Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich: I visited this lodge on March 6th. W. Bro. Geo. Porter, W. M., performed the initiatory ceremony on a candidate in a very commendable manner. He is an earnest and effective worker. The other officers do fair work. W. Bro. Crystal must be mentioned as a Past Master who is ever ready to render any assistance he can give to his lodge. R. W. Bro. Radcliff and R. W. Bro. J. Beck, pioneers in Masonry in this district and members of this lodge, are ever faithful to their past record. After the work was done we repaired to the banqueting room, where a most enjoyable time was spent. I was pleased to have with me W. Bro. Cordingly, W. M. of Georgina, Toronto.

Doric Lodge, No. 233, Park Hill: Accompanied by W. Bro. R. M. Cassells, I visited this lodge on April 4th. We were very cordially received at the station and escorted to the hotel by R. W. Bro. Dawson, P. D. D. G.

M. and W. Bro. F. Hutchins. This lodge has shown good judgment in the selection of its members, as, without exception, they all seem to be men of the desirable kind. W. Bro. F. Hutchins exemplified the third degree in a superior manner. He has associated with him officers well skilled in craft work. W. Bro. D. N. McLeod and other Past Masters are ever ready to be of service. Altogether a most enjoyable and profitable evening was spent.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 309, Smith's Hill: On April 6th, accompanied by a number of the brethren of Maitland Lodge, Goderich, I drove out to this lodge, which is situated about six miles in the country. W. Bro. Robertson, W. M., rendered the work of the third degree in a manner appreciated by all present. These brethren deserve creditable mention for the excellent performance of the work, as most of the officers and members live at a considerable distance from the lodge, which necessitates their driving. To provide for the comfort of their horses, they have made use of the ground floor, in which they have built stalls. The whole structure (to one who has never visited this lodge before) has the appearance of being provided with every convenience and comfort for man and beast. The regular attendance of the members of Morning Star would put many a city lodge to shame.

Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell: In company with Bro. Geo. Malcolm, of Tecumseh, Stratford, I visited this lodge on April 7th. A candidate was initiated by W. Bro. Anderson, W. M., and his officers, and considering that this was the first degree work the W. M. had done, he did very well. The officers of this lodge seem interested in their work, and govern with dignity as well as prudence. A very enjoyable time was spent around the festive board. Altogether my visit here was a very pleasant one.

Blyth Lodge, No. 303, Blyth: Through the kindness of W. Bro. Johnston, of Clinton, I was driven out to visit this lodge on April 25th, W. Bro. Cardia in the chair. The work was only fairly done, the junior officers having to depend too much upon the Worshipful Master for directions. I urged upon these brethren the need of constant drill. With an effort in this direction there is material for first-class work, and I am sure the

members would appreciate the beauty of the work, as well as the sentiment contained therein.

Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall: I visited this lodge on April 27th, accompanied by a number of the brethren of Britannia Lodge, Seaforth, who most kindly made up a party and drove me over. W. Bro. Ellis, W. M., exemplified the first degree in an able manner, but the junior officers lacked promptness in responding to the commands of their superiors. Otherwise this lodge is in a prosperous and healthy state. We had as visitors a number of the brethren of Lebanon Forest Lodge. We were generously entertained and spent altogether a most pleasant and enjoyable time.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford: I visited this, my mother, lodge officially on May 19, and was greeted by a large and enthusiastic gathering, W. Bro. R. T. Harding, W. M., in the chair. The work of the third degree was admirably done, particularly when consideration is given to the fact that this was the first effort of the W. M. in working any of the degrees. This is an earnest, active and strong lodge. The arrearage of dues is altogether in excess of what would be expected from good business methods. This is, nevertheless, the strongest lodge financially in the district, and I am proud to say the largest dispenser of charity of any lodge in the district.

Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter: I visited this lodge on May 22nd. W. Bro. J. A. Stewart, W. M., and his officers worked the first and second degrees. The first degree was worked perfectly and the second very good. This lodge is certainly in a very satisfactory state, financially and otherwise. We had the pleasure of having with us R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M., also a number of visitors from Zurich Lodge, Hensall. After the work of the lodge we were royally entertained, and as the electric light in this thriving burgh goes out at midnight, W. Bro. Stewart, who, no doubt anticipating the guests going home in the "wee sma hours," arranged for an all night service, which was appreciated by all. There were generally expressed regrets for the absence through illness of R. W. Bro. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., who is one of the most eloquent and enthusiastic Masons in South Huron.

St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's: Accompanied by a number of the brethren of Tecumseh and Stratford

Lodges, I visited this lodge on June 5th. This was by all odds the smallest and most indifferent meeting I attended in the whole district. The Worshipful Master, Bro. J. G. Constable, worked the first degree, and so far as his work was concerned it was well done, but he certainly does not receive that support from the junior officers which would justify their appointment or election to their respective duties, and even the Past Masters, who should be an inspiration and strength to the W. M., and whole lodge, seem to have lost sight of their privilege and duty. The Secretary, Bro. Carman, is a faithful and efficient officer, and whom I hope will remain constant with the Worshipful Master to St. James. I earnestly hope that before another year an effort will be made by all connected with this lodge to bring the work up to the standard of the other lodges in this district, and I see nothing to prevent this, as there are members here capable of harmonizing the different elements and creating an interest in the work generally.

Now, my work as D. D. G. M. is finished, and in reviewing the past year's endeavors, it is with deep humiliation that I see the many opportunities for good that have been allowed to pass unimproved; yet it is with reluctance that I relinquish the insignia of this office, but in doing so I desire to express my thanks to my brethren throughout the district for the cordial and gracious reception which I have everywhere received. The kindness of the brethren has been such that my visits to the various lodges will be remembered by me as long as life shall last.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

W. J. MOONEY, D. D. G. M.,

South Huron District, No. 4.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in South Huron District, No 4, from June 24th, 1894, to June 24th, 1895.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's conf'd		Affiliations.	Resignations.	Suspensions.	N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deaths.	Meet-ings held.		Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last C. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.						Regular.	Emergency.	Total.								
83	Maitland	Goderich	111	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	516	96	\$ 6 00	5	\$ 34 00	June 24, '95	Fair.	Very good	Yes	\$500 00
84	St. James	St. Mary's	115	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	516	96	.....	19	59 18	July 1, '95	Good.	Fair	Yes	Yes
85	Clinton	Clinton	97	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	720	81	.....	19	45 48	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	450 00
133	Feb. Forest	Midland	47	5	5	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	\$5 00	16	115 00	Jan. 1, '95	Good.	Good	Yes	700 00
141	Tutor	Midland	47	5	5	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Jan. 1, '95	Good.	Good	Yes	700 00
144	Tecumseh	Stratford	110	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	516	96	.....	19	59 18	Dec. 27, '94	Very good	Good	Yes	500 00
151	Irving	Lucan	54	7	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
170	Britannia	New Hamburg	54	7	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
205	S. Donahue	New Hamburg	54	7	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
234	Zurich	Heath	40	7	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
235	Doric	Park Hill	40	7	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
236	Byth	Smith's Hill	51	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
265	Mary Star	Smith's Hill	51	6	6	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
313	Windsor	Buckley	54	1	1	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
328	Stratford	Stratford	150	1	1	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	314	90	.....	16	115 00	July 4, '95	Good.	Good	Yes	700 00

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the pleasure, herewith, to submit to you my report on the condition of Masonry in North Huron District during the past year. I thank the brethren of the district for the honor conferred when they appointed me to fill the important and responsible position of D. D. G. M. for their district. I have endeavored to perform the duties pertaining to the office to the best of my ability as far as circumstances would allow, though not always to my own satisfaction. The receptions tendered to me on visiting the various lodges have been very cordial indeed, and on all occasions I have received the very warmest support of the brethren. It is worth the sacrifice of much time and effort to have the privilege and pleasure of coming into contact with the men that are found in Masonic lodges, and I shall look back upon the past year as being one of the most profitable and enjoyable that I have experienced.

During my visits I have endeavored to impress upon the officers the importance of having frequent practices on work such as the following: Steps and signs in the different degrees, floor work of deacons, questions and answers before an examining board, presentation of working tools, reciting the obligations, etc. I believe no better means than these can be adopted for arousing and sustaining the interest of the members and for securing a good attendance at the regular meetings.

In most cases the brethren have been careful and judicious in making their selection of officers, and in such cases I could not fail to notice the natural feeling of pride manifested by the brethren in their officers on account of the very satisfactory way the work was exemplified during my visit. In other cases, and I am glad to say they were very few, the brethren were subjected to some

mortification owing to the imperfect rendering of work on the part of the principal officers. It is no small honor to fill an office in the Blue, especially one of the principal offices; and it is wise in all cases to maintain a high standard of excellence in the holders of these offices. The Past Masters, as a rule, take a lively interest in the work of the lodge. This is accounted for by the fact that the Masters throughout the district make a practice of dividing any work that is to be done among the Past Masters.

The lodges throughout the district provided for a new regalia for the D. D. G. M. last year. I think each retiring D. D. G. M. should receive a regalia at the end of his term, and at a very small outlay the Grand Lodge could provide for this being done.

Dispensations were issued to the following lodges for the purpose of attending divine service: Wingham Lodge, No. 286; Moravian Lodge, No. 431; Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 362; Old Light, No. 184; Cedar Lodge, No. 396, and Bernard, No. 225.

The expenses incurred on my official visits have in all cases been promptly met.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Teeswater Lodge, No. 276: I visited this lodge on Nov. 25th. There was no degree work to be done. The Master opened and closed in the three degrees. The brethren appear to be rather rusty in the work, and not much interest seems to be evinced in Masonry. There have been no initiations for several terms, and as a result very little attention has been given to the ritual work.. Three applications were received on the night of my visit, and I expect that Teeswater Lodge is now entering upon an era of prosperity.

Fordwich Lodge, No. 331: I visited this lodge on Dec. 22nd, and I found it in a fairly prosperous condition. The membership is small, but what is lacking in numbers is made up in enthusiasm. The work exemplified was done in a very creditable manner. The books are well kept and attention is given to the collection of dues.

Forest Lodge, No. 162: This lodge was visited on Dec. 26th. This lodge is now on the high road to success. W. Bro. Barnard is thoroughly posted in his work and has the power of arousing enthusiasm in others.

One application for membership was received during the night of my visit. The first and second degrees were exemplified correctly and impressively. The brethren here have comfortable and commodious rooms and the finances are in good shape. V. W. Bro. Wyness was present and gave an interesting and instructive address to the brethren.

Moravian Lodge, No. 431: Visited this lodge on Dec. 30th and found a fine spirit of harmony prevailing among its members. W. Bros. Traill and Clark, of Saugeen Lodge, honored us with their presence. This lodge last year initiated a brother seventy-two years old. He is one of the most active and zealous workers in the lodge. W. Bro. Morrison conferred the third degree. I have seldom seen the work better exemplified than was done by the Master and his officers. This is one of the most progressive lodges in the district, and it apparently has a prosperous future. The books are well kept and the finances are in good shape. After the lodge was closed the brethren spent a very social hour around the banquet table with toasts, speeches and songs.

Wingham Lodge, N. 286: I visited this lodge on Jan. 3rd. The W. M. and his officers exemplified the first degree. The officers, from want of practice, were a little nervous and rusty, but I know that they are capable of doing excellent work. R. W. Bro. Morton, the Secretary, has the books in good shape, and looks well after the finances. The brethren have very comfortable quarters, well furnished and attractive.

Bernard Lodge, No. 225: I visited this, my mother lodge, on Jan. 20th. V. W. Bro. Wyness and W. Bro. Spencer, of Fordwich, and R. W. Bro. Leslie, P. D. G. M., of Manitoba, favored the brethren with their presence. The W. M., Bro. Blewett, and his officers, with the assistance of P. M's., exemplified the first and third degrees very efficiently. Two applications for membership were received on the night of my visit, and from present indications this lodge will have a most prosperous year. A pleasing feature in connection with this lodge was the promptness and dispatch with which the work was done. The brethren took this opportunity of presenting a P. M's. jewel to the D. D. G. M. W. Bro. Foster, the Secretary, keeps the books in good shape.

Saugeen Lodge, No. 197: I visited the brethren of this lodge on Feby. 14th. Twelve brethren from Han-

over Lodge and eight from Moravian Lodge added very much to the pleasure of the evening. The first degree was exemplified by one of the Past Masters. The W. M. opened and closed in the three degrees. The criticisms made and suggestions offered by the D. D. G. M. were cordially received.

Cedar Lodge, No. 396: I visited this lodge on Feby. 21st. There was a good attendance of the brethren and five visitors came over from Burns Lodge. The Master and his officers exemplified the first degree in such a way as to call for very little criticism. The brethren have a comfortable and well-furnished lodge room. This lodge still remains among the best in the district.

Port Egin Lodge, No. 429: I visited the brethren of this lodge in their new quarters on Feby. 23rd. This is one of the best furnished and cosiest lodge rooms in the district, and the brethren deserve great credit for the sacrifices they have made in securing such comfortable rooms. The second degree was exemplified by W. Bro. George in a very forcible and impressive manner. The members of this lodge are enthusiastic and there appears to be a bright future ahead of it. After the lodge was closed a pleasant hour was spent around the festive board.

Hanover Lodge, No. 432: Visited this lodge on Feby. 24th and met a large representation of the lodge. About a dozen brethren from Saugeen Lodge came over for the evening. The members here are a most enthusiastic lot of Masons. They have a very fine lodge room and it is well furnished and tastefully decorated. Five were initiated on the night of my visit. The Master was ably assisted by Bros. Landerkin and Mitchell. A very pleasing feature was the musical service during the initiations. The progress of this lodge in the last two years has been remarkable.

St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 131: I visited this lodge on Feb. 28th and met quite a large number of the brethren. W. M. Johns exemplified the first degree in a very creditable manner. The lodge owns the building in which the meetings are held. This brings them in quite a revenue, so that this lodge is in financial circumstances one of the best in the district.

Forest Lodge, No. 393: I visited this lodge on March 7 and met a good representation of the lodge. The Master and his officers exemplified the first degree. The

officers are young brethren and they did the work remarkably well. Although not doing much work, this lodge is in a healthy condition.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 362: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 27. The first degree was exemplified by the Master and his officers, and altogether I don't think that I have ever heard the work given with more expression and precision. I had much pleasure in renewing acquaintance with R. W. Bro. Wilson, who is a typical Mason. The books are well kept and the finances in very good condition. After the lodge was closed the members met around the banquet table and indulged in toasts, songs and speeches.

Burns Lodge, No. 436: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 28th. Eleven visitors came over from Wiarton and one from Port Elgin. Two candidates were initiated by the W. M. and his officers, and the work done was characterized by that correctness and carefulness that distinguishes the officers of this lodge. Although this is the youngest lodge in the district, it has one of the most complete and Masonic equipments in the districts. The lodge is making steady progress and getting into good financial standing. The fourth degree was exemplified in a very acceptable manner after the lodge had been closed.

Old Light Lodge, No. 184: I visited this lodge on April 20th. The W. M., on account of sickness, was unable to be present, but the P. M.'s and officers opened up and closed down in the three degrees. Old Light has good material in its officers and is keeping up its past reputation for exact work.

Aldworth Lodge, No. 235: I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 21st and met a fair representation of the brethren. The first degree was exemplified and the lodge opened up and closed down in the three degrees. The work was well done considering that this lodge has not conferred any degrees for a considerable time. The books are very well kept, but not enough attention is given to collecting the dues. A little more energy and enthusiasm on the part of the members here would raise Masonry from a second place to that of first place in this community.

St. John's Lodge, No. 284: I visited this lodge on the 25th of April and was greeted by about twenty of

the members. The W. M. has moved to Manitoba and the Master's work is done by Past Masters. The second degree was exemplified. The candidate was well prepared and the service throughout particularly well done. The lodge room is comfortable and well furnished.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 93: I paid my official visit to this lodge on May 3rd, and about thirty-five members gave me a cordial welcome. The W. M. and his officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. There was no degree work to be done, but W. Bro. Scott examined the members by giving the questions and receiving the answers of the three degrees. The obligations were recited and the Warden's addresses delivered. This was a departure from the work usually done at the D. D. G. M.'s official visit, and it proved to be a very interesting and instructive way of spending the evening. This lodge owns its building, is in good financial standing, and is one of the most charitable in the district. After the lodge was closed the brethren repaired to the refreshment rooms and spent a profitable hour in having speeches, songs and recitations.

Bruce Lodge, No. 341: Visited this lodge on May 4th in company with R. W. Bro. Martyn and V. W. Bros. Miller and McPherson, of Northern Light Lodge. As there was no degree work to be done the Master and his officers opened and closed in the three degrees. They proved themselves to be well skilled in this kind of work, and I have no doubt that they are able to confer degrees with the same correctness. Interesting and instructive addresses were given by the visiting brethren, after which we all showed our skill at the well-laden banquet board.

In conclusion, I am happy to say that Masonry is flourishing in our district and that invariably a fine spirit of harmony prevails among the brethren.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM IRWIN, D. D. G. M.,
North Huron District, No. 5.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in The North Huron District, No. 5, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF Lodge.	LOCATION.	Total No. of All Mem.	Increase during year.	Men-ber his conf'd	Degree's conf'd	Admittions.	Restorations.	Reignitions.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
53	Nth Light	Kincardine	80	1			2	2	1		2	2	14	9	25	\$53.00	7	\$124.00	June, '99	Good	Fair	Yes	\$1600.00
131	St. Lawrence	Southampton	38	4			1	1	1		1	15	6	11	25	5.00	9	75.00	June, '99	Good	Fair	Yes	700.00
162	Forest	Wrocteter	25	6			1	1	1		1	15	1	15	12.00	12.00	9	52.00	Dec., '98	Good	Fair	Yes	700.00
184	Old Light	Wrocteter	44	2			1	2	2		1	13	14	12	12	24.00	6	24.00	June, '99	Good	Good	Yes	400.00
197	Saugen	Wrocteter	51	7			3	3	3		2	13	14	17	17	11.75	6	6.60	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	700.00
225	Bernard	Listowel	83	3			3	3	3		2	12	13	20	20	7.00	6	68.00	Dec., '98	Fair	Good	Yes	700.00
235	Aldworth	Paisley	37	5			1	1	1		1	12	13	10	10	3	3	87.00	June, '99	Very good	Fair	Yes	300.00
276	Teeswater	Teeswater	23	2			1	1	1		1	9	12	9	9	3	3	57.00	July, '99	Good	Good	Yes	350.00
284	St John's	Brussels	67	1			1	1	1		1	11	12	15	15	25	11	61.00	June, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	250.00
296	Wingham	Wingham	47	3			1	1	1		1	10	10	11	11	15.00	14	50.00	June, '98	Good	Very fair	Yes	250.00
331	Fordwich	Fordwich	59	4			1	1	1		1	13	14	10	10	3	3	63.00	March, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	400.00
341	Bruce	Tiverton	37	6			1	1	1		1	13	13	15	15	10.00	4	35.00	Dec., '98	Good	Good	Yes	400.00
362	Maple Leaf	Tara	39	1			1	1	1		1	13	15	15	15	10.00	4	35.00	June, '99	Fair	Good	Yes	500.00
383	Forest	Chesley	30	13			4	4	4		1	13	15	15	15	5.00	4	16.00	June, '98	Good	Good	Yes	300.00
396	Cedar	Warren	64	5			7	7	7		1	14	16	16	16	15.00	5	15.00	June, '98	Good	Good	Yes	300.00
429	Port Elgin	Port Elgin	39	5			5	5	5		1	14	16	16	16	15.00	5	15.00	April, '97	Good	Good	Yes	300.00
431	Moravian	Eden Grove	39	5			5	5	5		1	14	16	16	16	15.00	5	15.00	Dec., '97	Fair	Good	Yes	300.00
432	Hanover	Hanover	35	10			10	10	10		1	12	14	14	14	12.00	2	12.00	Dec., '97	Fair	Good	Yes	500.00
436	Burns	Hepworth	35	8			5	5	5		1	12	14	14	14	12.00	2	12.00	Dec., '97	Fair	Good	Yes	500.00

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report as D.D.G.M. for this district, I desire in the first place to express my most sincere regret on account of the circumstances under which I was called on to accept the duties of the office. I refer to the fact of R. W. Bro. Merritt having removed from the Province shortly after he was installed. I have known R. W. Bro. Merritt for a considerable time and I know him to be a well-skilled and most enthusiastic Mason who would have discharged his duties with credit to himself and with honor to the district, and I realized on accepting the position at the suggestion of the M. W. the Grand Master that not having been the choice of the brethren, some other brother might have been more acceptable to the district. I am happy to state, however, that on every occasion where I visited a lodge I met with the most spontaneous and hearty reception, which quite reassured me of the loyalty of the brethren and made me feel that I was no less welcome than when I was the personal choice of the district, as I have been on three previous occasions, and I can assure you these visits awakened many very pleasant reminiscences and recalled many a pleasant and, I trust, profitable evening I had spent during my prior incumbency of the office. Old acquaintances were renewed, old friends greeted again, and although time has wrought its changes and in many cases the "Grim Reaper" has entered the portals, it was most gratifying to find that very many of the active members in 1885-86 and 87 are active members in 1899, showing clearly that Masonry has the charms and Masons are loyal still to the tenets and principles of the fraternity.

I found in many cases the lodges had made improvement in furniture and equipment in their lodge room,

and in this respect the comparison between 1899 and the former years of my office is altogether favorable, as showing very marked improvements in this particular direction.

Another source of great pleasure to me was to meet so many of the older members of the craft. Brethren who in many cases have been among the founders and charter members of their respective lodges, still retaining, not a passive, but an active interest, in the welfare of their mother lodges. This is as it should be, and is in marked distinction of what is sometimes found, when a brother has had the degrees conferred on him and has possibly enjoyed every honor in the gift of his brethren, his interest and enthusiasm cease he becomes careless and irregular in his attendance, and the benefits of Masonry appear to be as much lost on him as though he had never joined at all. How different in the cases I have suggested where the brethren have grown up with an interest in their lodge. The older they grow the more they love their lodge and the more they portray the true beauty of Freemasonry in their walk and conversation. One of the brightest Masons in my district has in this respect a unique record. Over twenty-five years a member of the order, and never absent but from one regular communication of his lodge, and that owing to circumstances which he could not possibly control. Is that not something of which to be proud? If we could boast of more such workers our craft would be the better for their membership.

Owing to the fact that I did not receive my appointment till somewhat late in the year and also to a great pressure of other matters which demanded my attention, I was unable to do as much visiting as I otherwise should have liked. However, I have had very able assistance from R. W. Bros. Atkinson, Miles and McDonald, who made several visits for me, and in this way every lodge with the exception of one has been visited during the year, and I have been able to visit some of the lodges on several occasions.

I desire to thank R. W. Bros. Atkinson, Miles and McDonald for their great kindness in coming so willingly to my assistance, and I feel sure their efforts have been greatly appreciated by the brethren of the district because otherwise some of the lodges would have been unavoidably overlooked.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted permission to the brethren of King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, to attend their cemetery in a body clothed as Masons, for the purpose of decorating the graves of the departed brethren, and have also granted dispensations to the brethren of King Hiram and St. John's Lodges, Ingersoll, and to the brethren of King Solomon and Oxford Lodges, Woodstock, for the purpose of attending divine worship.

VISITS.

King Hiram Lodge, 78, Tilsonburg: Shortly after his election (I have not the exact date before me), R. W. Bro. Merritt, D. D. G. M., visited this lodge and sends me his report as follows: "In company with W. Bro. Dr. Anderson, I had the pleasure of visiting this old and well-known lodge. Although I had only given them about twenty-four hours' notice, I found about forty of the brethren present to greet me, and I was received with a truly Masonic greeting. I found the officers well qualified, the brethren full of Masonic enthusiasm, the finances in good condition and the lodge in a very prosperous condition, and the outlook for Masonry in that portion of the district exceedingly bright." Since then I have to report that the lodge has suffered a great loss in the death of V. W. Bro. Charles McDonald, which took place in March last. This distinguished brother was one of the most enthusiastic Masons in the district, a very prominent citizen, standing high in his profession and held in great esteem by all who knew him.

Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, Plattsville: On the 23rd day of December I made my official visit to this lodge and installed the officers for the current year. I found the lodge in a very satisfactory condition and the brethren fully alive to the interest of the craft. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Allshire, a veteran among Masons, and a brother who has always taken a most active interest in Masonry and in the welfare of his mother lodge. This lodge has always done its work well, the officers are well skilled, and there appears no lack of enthusiasm among the brethren. The Secretary and Treasurer's books were examined and everything was apparently in the most satisfactory condition.

Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, Simcoe: This lodge was

visited officially December 27th by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, who reports his visit as follows: "I visited my mother lodge, Norfolk, No. 10, at Simcoe, on December 27th, 1898, and installed W. Brother Bottomly and his officers into their respective chairs. This is a steady-going lodge and adds its quota every year to the advancement of Masonry. I attended the lodge fairly regularly, and I cannot recall a lodge meeting for years but there were one to three degrees exemplified. The members turn out well and seem to enjoy the work and also our after meetings. The Past Masters take an active interest in the lodge and are always around if their assistance is required, but that is seldom, as our officers are always able to do their work. The lodge held its annual banquet on that occasion and a very enjoyable evening was spent."

DEPARTED.

"Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, has suffered a severe loss during the past year, one that it will not recover from for some time to come. I refer to the loss of R. W. Bro. Gilbert Wells, who departed this life October 1st, 1898, and has joined the Grand Lodge above. Whether in sunshine or shadow, in storm or in calm, R. W. Bro. Wells never failed to be at lodge; his kindly face and robust form hovers about us, although he has gone, and in our memories linger his brotherly acts and words of encouragement. We laid our friend and brother away with Masonic honors, and upwards of two hundred brethren from different parts of the district assembled to pay their last sad rites to departed merit."

King Solomon Lodge and Oxford Lodge, Woodstock: On the 27th day of December, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Dunn, of Pacific Lodge, of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia at the invitation of Oxford Lodge. I installed their officers, and on the 7th day of February, accompanied by R. W. Hungerford, D. G. M., I paid my official visit to both lodges at a joint communication held that evening. There was a very large attendance of the members, and the work of the several degrees was exemplified by the different officers in a highly creditable manner. At the close of the lodge a magnificent banquet was served and a most enjoyable evening spent. On 27th June I installed the brethren of King Solomon Lodge, on which occasion there was a very large at-

tendance. I have thus had different opportunities of acquainting myself with the work and conditions of these two lodges. Their increase has been very large this year, their officers are among the most efficient in the district, their books are neatly and well kept, their lodge rooms commodious and well appointed, and in every respect I cannot speak too highly of the Woodstock lodges.

Burford Lodge, No. 106: On the 28th December I visited this lodge and, assisted by R. W. Bro. Miles, installed their officers. An examination of their books showed them to be neatly and carefully kept. The officers are well instructed, the work is performed correctly and in such a manner to show that the lodge is composed of live, active and enthusiastic members. They have a nice lodge room, well appointed, handsomely furnished, are doing good work, and I know of no lodge where greater zeal and interest is manifested than in Burford lodge. At the close of the work the visiting brethren and myself were entertained in a handsome manner, and everything that could be done was done to display the true meaning of that beautiful Masonic motto, "To be happy ourselves and communicate happiness to others."

Oriental Lodge, No. 181, was visited for me by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, who reports as follows: "I visited Oriental Lodge, No. 181, Port Burwell, on January 24th, 1898, and installed a new set of officers. There was a fair attendance. A candidate was balloted for and accepted, and the intention was that he should be initiated by the new officers, but as he was not ready the initiation was deferred until the next regular meeting. This lodge has been at a standstill for several years, being limited as to territory and ready material, but the new officers are enthusiastic, and I feel sure that the coming year will be a prosperous one. I was very sorry to hear since I visited them that they had been burned out and suffered a considerable loss. The books, collection of dues and so on are very satisfactory."

King Hiram and St. John's Lodges, Ingersoll: On the 17th day of March a joint meeting of these two lodges was held, on which occasion I made my official visit. Ingersoll being my home, I naturally have many opportunities of visiting these lodges, and on several occasions during the year it has been my pleasant privi-

lege of attending their regular communications. Both these lodges are well officered and have had a very creditable and successful year, as will be seen by the tabulated statistics hereto appended. In St. John's Lodge a loss has been felt on account of the retirement of Bro. Ewart, who was for over a quarter of a century the Secretary. Bro. Ewart was one of the most painstaking and efficient Secretaries in the district, and it was a matter of universal regret that increasing years rendered it necessary for him to retire from the more active duties of the lodge. A better Secretary, a more popular man and a more beloved Mason does not live in this, and I question in any other district, than Bro. William Ewart.

St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich: On the 29th day of March, accompanied by R. W. McCurdy, I made my official visit to this lodge. Since my former term of office this lodge has moved into more commodious and very much improved quarters, and they are now enjoying all the comforts a well-appointed lodge room could produce. The books of this lodge appear well kept, the attendance is up to the average, and everything appears to be in a satisfactory condition, reflecting credit on the officers generally, and manifesting a continual increase and growing interest in the fraternity.

Walsingham Lodge, 174, Port Rowan; Erie Lodge, 194, Port Dover; Vittoria Lodge, 359, Vittoria, and Wilson Lodge, 113, Waterford, were all visited by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, whose report regarding them is as follows: "Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan, was visited by me April 20th, 1899. This lodge has been very prosperous since the time I visited it in 1898-99. The W. M. tells me that they have had work every night during the past year and they raised two candidates to the sublime degree of a Master Mason the evening I visited them, doing the work in a manner which reflected great credit on the officers. They have had the lodge room neatly fixed up and are furnishing it with the most modern furniture. This lodge has many enthusiastic members and a good territory, which insures for it a brilliant future.

"Erie Lodge, No. 149, Port Dover, received my official visit on April 24th, 1899. There was a good attendance, and the lodge seemed full of life and prosperity, several having been added to its number during

the past year. W. Bro. Butler and officers initiated the candidates, which was done in a very creditable manner. They had another candidate who had been accepted, but his initiation was put off until the next regular meeting. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition. The Secretary, W. Bro. Varey, looks after the dues and keeps the books neatly.

"I paid my visit to Vittoria Lodge, No. 359, on May 19th, 1899. This lodge has so overcome past difficulties and has prospered during the year beyond my expectations, having added six or seven to its number, two being initiated on this occasion. There were several visitors from Port Rowan and Simcoe, and after the meeting there were many appropriate and witty things said. W. Bro. McCall and his officers and R. W. Bro. Kennedy are always around to lend a helping hand.

"Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, received me on May 24, 1899. I installed the officers in this lodge a year ago last January and predicted a prosperous year, but it has greatly surpassed anything I had expected. They have taken in as high as four in an evening, and numerically and financially speaking, the last year has been a grand success. Lieutenant-Colonel York installed the present officers last January, who are keeping up the record of their predecessors. They passed one candidate and raised another during the evening of my visit, the work as done being a credit to the officers. Wilson Lodge is again on its feet and promises such for the future."

Scotland, No. 193, Scotland: On the 22nd day of May I visited this lodge, which, I understand, had also been visited by R. W. Bro. Merritt previous to his going away. I was accompanied by R. W. Bros. Atkinson and Miles and a number of other visiting brethren, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. In no lodge in the district does there appear so marked an improvement since I visited them before, as is shown in Scotland Lodge. In 1886 I visited this lodge as D. D. G. M. of the district, and at that time I was almost of the opinion that it was in process of rapid decline, but now there are few lodges in my jurisdiction that give evidence of greater prosperity and more efficient management, and it was certainly very gratifying for me to find so much improvement. At the close of the lodge a very pleasant

entertainment was provided and every one felt that no fear need be felt for the future of Scotland Lodge.

Thistle Lodge, No. 250, Embro: On the 25th of May I visited this lodge, and I regret to report that the attendance was very poor, and I was not very favorably impressed with its work. Finding that a great deal of sickness in the neighborhood prevented the brethren from attending, I suggested a second visit and arranged to install their officers, which I did on the 22nd June. On this occasion I realized that my former fears were unfounded and that Thistle Lodge is quite alive. A new lot of officers were installed and they were well up in their work, and I have no doubt that the lodge, which is comprised of many noble men and zealous Masons, has a bright future before it.

Blenheim Lodge, No. 108: On the 26th day of May R. W. Bro. Miles, at my request, visited this lodge, and reports as follows: "In obedience to the request of R. W. Bro. Hegler, I visited Blenheim Lodge, No. 108, on Friday, 26th May, accompanied by W. Bro. Clement, of Burford Lodge, as my official bodyguard, and was accorded a hearty welcome by W. Bro. Daniels and members. I found a good attendance, with the officers in their respective places, supported by a number of P.M.'s. I was pleased to meet a number of visitors, among others R. W. Bro. Allshire, W. Bros. Henderson, Johnston and Hewett, of Plattsville Lodge, and W. Bro. Parkhill and others, of Burford Lodge, and as there was no work on, I requested the W. M. to open and close in the three degrees, which was done to my entire satisfaction, with due regard to floor work. Bro. Dr. Taylor is a very efficient Secretary and his books are a model of neatness, with comparatively no arrears of dues. Two applications for affiliation and one for initiation were received. I am confident that this lodge has a bright future before it. After the lodge we were invited to the dining hall of the Duke House, where ample refreshments were provided and a pleasant hour was spent."

St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris: On the 20th June I visited this lodge, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Cox and V. W. Bro. Dunn, of Pacific Lodge, of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia. I found the lodge apparently in a fairly satisfactory state. The attendance was not as large as I would liked to have seen it, and I regret to find that some of the older members were apparently not attend-

ing as regularly as they might. That evening they elected their officers, who appeared to be brethren who would protect the interest of the lodge. Of the Secretary and the manner in which the lodge books are kept I cannot speak too highly, and it was needless perhaps to say that he was unanimously re-elected.

Oak Branch Lodge, No. 261, Innerkip: This lodge was visited by me on the 22nd day of June. Their returns in the tabulated statement appended shows the lodge to be in a fair condition, but I found that the attendance had not been large nor had some of the officers been very regular in their attendance. W. Bro. Towns and W. Bros. Thomas and David Peat have long been the strong pillars on which the lodge rests, and it is hard to say what would have been the result had not these and a few other zealous brethren stuck to the ship. Of course Innerkip is but a small village and lies between Woodstock and Plattsville, and has Blenheim Lodge on the south, so that it is geographically in an unpromising situation for a Masonic lodge, but still it has a membership of thirty-seven and they are paying members, as shown by their only having total arrearages of twenty-six dollars, a most creditable showing. I suggested new books and some alterations in their system of bookkeeping, and believe all my suggestions will be carried out. On the whole, I have every confidence in Oak Branch Lodge.

Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi: This is the only lodge in my district whose condition causes any regret. In prior years I have often visited this lodge officially, and these visits were always a source of pleasure to me, and it was always regarded as a flourishing one. Lately, however, there appears to be on the part of some of the members a lack of Masonic harmony, which is causing a great deal of trouble.

Vienna Lodge, No. 237: This lodge, I regret to say, has not been officially visited during the year, and it is the only one I have been unable to reach. It was arranged between R. W. Bro. McDonald and myself that he should visit this lodge, and an evening was set for the purpose, but circumstances over which he had no control prevented his doing so. R. W. Bro. McDonald tells me, however, that from enquiries he has made and from his own personal knowledge, he is able to report that the lodge is in a satisfactory condition.

And now in surrendering the duties of my office to my successor, I desire to thank the M. W. the Grand Master for appointing me to preside over the district, where I have previously been thrice elected by the brethren as their D.D.G.M., on account of many opportunities it has given me to form new and renew old acquaintances, and I feel as though it had inspired me with new interest in the fraternity, as it has certainly awakened within me a new interest in the lodges and the brethren of my district.

I desire, in the second place, again to tender my very warmest thanks to R. W. Bros. Miles, McDonald and Atkinson for the cheerful and able assistance they have given me in the discharge of my duties, as without that aid I feel I should have come far short of meriting the confidence the M. W. the Grand Master reposed in me in committing Wilson District to my charge.

And in the third place I desire to thank the brethren of the district as a whole for the cordial welcome they invariably gave me, for the cheerful acquiescence with which they fell in with any suggestions I had to make, and for the interest that as members of our grand fraternity they appear to take in promoting the comfort and happiness of the brethren and inculcating the great principles of our time-honored institution.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. C. HEGLER, D. D. G. M.,
Wilson District, No. 6.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Wilson District, No 6, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Mem-ber-ship.	Degree's conf'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
						E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
10	Norfolk	Simcoe	96	4	4	3	1	3	0	1	1	1	1	13	114	55	\$77 07	8	\$ 60 00	June 24, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	\$ 600 00		
37	King Hill	Windsor	70	5	4	1	1	1	0	4	1	1	1	13	137	10	10 00	94	150 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	500 00		
43	King John	Windsor	73	10	7	3	3	3	0	4	1	1	1	14	148	85	14 00	94	144 00	Dec. 31, '98	Very good	Finishing	Yes	125 00		
57	King Sol'n	Windsor	75	7	5	3	3	3	0	4	1	1	1	14	148	85	14 00	94	144 00	June 31, '98	Good	Bright	Yes	500 00		
68	St. John's	Windsor	114	11	9	9	9	9	0	0	1	1	1	14	148	85	14 00	94	144 00	Dec. 31, '98	Good	Excellent	Yes	125 00		
76	Oxford	Windsor	114	11	9	9	9	9	0	0	1	1	1	14	148	85	14 00	94	144 00	Dec. 31, '98	Good	Good	Yes	200 00		
78	King Hill	Windsor	114	11	9	9	9	9	0	0	1	1	1	14	148	85	14 00	94	144 00	Dec. 31, '98	Good	Good	Yes	200 00		
88	St. John's	Paris	96	4	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	13	116	35	20 00	30	913 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Fair	Yes	750 00		
104	St. John's	Burford	96	4	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	13	116	35	20 00	30	913 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	750 00		
106	Burford	Burford	96	4	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	13	116	35	20 00	30	913 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	750 00		
113	Blenheim	Windsor	67	10	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	June 24, '98	Good	Fair	No	1700 00		
116	Wilson	Windsor	85	6	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	June 24, '98	Good	Fair	No	1700 00		
123	Erie	Port Dover	57	5	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	Dec. 27, '98	First class	Prosper's	Yes	500 00		
147	Walsingham	Port Dover	53	6	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	300 00		
174	Plattsville	Plattsville	57	6	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Splendid	Yes	1200 00		
178	Plattsville	Plattsville	43	1	3	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	13	114	33	65 00	9	103 58	Jan. 17, '99	Good	Very fair	Yes	250 00		
181	Oriental	Port Burwell	96	3	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	14	114 38	Jan. 17, '99	Good	Fair	No	400 00		
207	Scotland	Scotland	57	6	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	14	114 38	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	No	400 00		
218	Frederick	Delhi	38	3	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	23	91 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	1500 00		
237	Vienna	Vienna	35	1	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	24	166 07	June 24, '98	Fair	Fair	Yes	Yes		
257	Thistle	Embro	29	3	1	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	14	94 00	June 24, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	Yes		
260	Oak Branch	Inverkip	39	3	1	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	11	113	8	5 00	9	27 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Encour'g	Yes	Yes		
261	Oak Branch	Victoria	30	1	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	12	113	10	5 00	9	27 00	Jan. 25, '99	Fair	Fair	Yes	Yes		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Canada :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report on the condition of Masonry in the Wellington District during the past year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In the first place I wish to return my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me at the last meeting of Grand Lodge in electing me to this important and responsible office, and to express to the brethren throughout the district my gratefulness for the uniform and kindly treatment accorded to me whilst paying my official visits, a cordial reception being accorded me on every occasion.

During my term of office it has been my constant effort to merit the confidence placed in me. If I have fallen short in the performance of my duty it was not through lack of zeal in the cause.

I visited every lodge in the district once and some of them twice, and in every case have endeavored to fill the responsible position of the representative of the Grand Master in this district to the best of my ability.

Knowing that accuracy and uniformity in the work of our beautiful ritual is one of the greatest essentials, I devoted considerable effort to its attainment, and in my visits endeavored to instruct as far as my own knowledge would permit, which was most acceptable to the brethren. I corrected whenever I found it necessary, and complimented only where it was deserved. I am glad that I am able to report the work done throughout the district to be such as I felt authorized to accept. In nearly every lodge I have asked the Past Masters to remain after the lodge was closed to emphasize the essentials of the ritualistic work.

The harmony that exists throughout the district is most gratifying. Another very pleasing feature is the exchange of visits between the members of the different lodges. This I have endeavored to stimulate, as I am a firm believer in the good results effected by these fraternal visits. I was delighted to find in nearly every lodge I visited the active interest taken in the affairs of the lodge by the Past Masters. They still continue to render valuable aid to the W. Masters and are pillars of strength to their lodges.

THE WORK.

My first official act was the appointment of W. Bro. Thos. Shaw, P. M. of New Hope Lodge, No. 279, as District Secretary, whose prompt and efficient services have been a wonderful assistance to me in my work.

During the months of August and September I received notice of the meetings of only ten of the twenty-one lodges in the district. I then wrote to the Secretary of each lodge who had not sent me the customary notice with the result that all except three have sent me the notices fairly regularly. I would particularly call the attention of secretaries to the necessity of sending a notice of all the meetings of their lodges to the D. D. G. M.

The work is generally well done and a credit to the brethren entrusted with the performance of the same. Only in one or two instances was I disappointed, and in each of these reasonable excuses were made. I may say that in my official visits I did not consider it was my duty to unduly criticize or unduly praise the work of the brethren, but on every occasion I took the opportunity to point out any omissions or inaccuracies which I observed in such a manner as not to give offense, but to encourage the work being done in a uniform manner throughout the district.

I endeavored to notify the brethren in ample time of the date of my official visits, with the result that, with one exception, the attendance at those meetings was good, and in nearly every instance many visiting brethren were present. The hospitality of the lodges of Wellington District is beyond reproach. Everywhere there is good fellowship and good feeling, and a capacity to entertain that ought to, and does, make the brethren feel that companionship and brotherly feeling that cannot be excelled outside the mystic tie.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Towards the end of the year and having visited nearly all of the lodges, I arranged to hold a Lodge of Instruction in Guelph, that city being one of the most central points and easily accessible to all of the lodges in the district.

The date fixed was the 26th of May, and a circular letter was sent to each lodge two weeks before asking the Secretary to notify each member of the meeting and of my request for as many as possible to attend in order that by meeting together, seeing the work done and comparing the manner of doing, it might be brought into as uniform a condition as possible.

There was a large attendance at the meeting, which was most gratifying in itself, but I am sorry to say that the majority of the lodges unrepresented were those who most needed instruction in the proper manner of doing the ritualistic work and whom I had trusted would attend and gain instruction, love and enthusiasm for the work of their own lodge.

One degree each was exemplified by the three lodges of Guelph, and those who know the lively enthusiasm for Masonry that prevails there need not be told that the manner in which it was done was unimpeachable.

At the afternoon session, W. Bro. Law, W. M. of Waverley, with the officers of his own lodge, exemplified the first degree, and at the evening meeting W. Bro. Darby, W. M. of Guelph Lodge, with his officers, took the second degree, and W. Bro. Stephenson, W. M. of Speed Lodge, with his officers, the third degree.

The work of these Worshipful Masters, with the assistance of their own lodge officers, was all that could be desired, and the sincere thanks of myself and all of the brethren who witnessed the ceremonies are due to them for the most excellent manner in which they were performed, and also for the hospitality of Speed, Guelph and Waverley Lodges in serving an enjoyable luncheon in the banquet room at the conclusion of the evening session.

My own sincere thanks are due to W. Bros. Stephenson, Darby and Law for the hearty co-operation of the Guelph Lodges in exemplifying the work at this Lodge of Instruction.

At the conclusion of each degree opportunity was

given to the brethren to ask questions relative to the work, and it is creditable to those to say that a lively interest was displayed in the numerous points raised.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

New Hope Lodge, No. 279: On October 26th, 1898, my first official visit in the district was made to this, my mother lodge. The work for the evening consisted in opening and closing in the three degrees, examination of a brother as to his proficiency in the third degree, and an initiation. The work throughout was fairly well done, the W. M., Bro. R. G. Scott, being ably assisted by his Wardens and officers, also by some of the Past Masters, relieving him in part of the Master's work. The candidate who received initiation was Bro. W. A. Kribs, M. P. P., who will, no doubt, prove himself a very worthy member of the craft and do honor to the membership of New Hope Lodge. At the request of my brethren of New Hope Lodge, I made this my first official visit in the district and was tendered a very hearty reception. A large number of visiting brethren from Speed, Guelph and Waverly Lodges of Guelph, Galt and Alma Lodges of Galt, and Preston Lodge, were present to assist New Hope Lodge to do honor to the representative of the Grand Master elected from their own lodge. I was much pleased to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. A. B. Jardine, Alfred Taylor, R. Mahoney and A. J. Oliver, and received much inspiration from their kindly words of encouragement. New Hope Lodge has a very efficient Secretary in Bro. C. M. Shultz, his books being neatly and correctly kept. The finances of the lodge are in fair condition. After the conclusion of the work for the evening an adjournment was made to the Queen's Hotel, where an excellent spread had been prepared. After the inner man had been supplied a pleasant hour was spent in speech and song.

Speed Lodge, No. 180, Guelph: I made my official visit to this lodge on November 1st, 1898, accompanied by several brethren from New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hespeler. The work for the evening consisted in raising Bro. Joseph Hadden, which was done in excellent form, showing proficiency on the part of all the officers. W. Bro. Lindsay, the W. M. of the lodge, is a skilled craftsman and a worthy successor of the many excellent

Masters who in the years that are past have maintained the very high standard that has always characterized the work of Speed Lodge. In my examination of the books of the lodge I found that the commendation bestowed by previous D. D. G. M.'s on the work of W. Bro. Parker, who has been Secretary of Speed Lodge for many years, was well deserved, as his records are models of accuracy and neatness. The finances are in a very satisfactory condition. It was a great pleasure to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. Scoon, Petrie and Hepburn, who so commendably maintain their interest in Masonry, and thus prove a stimulus to the members of the craft in Speed Lodge. I was also glad to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s R. W. Bros. Mahoney, Pettiford and Savage, all of Wellington District, and R. W. Bro. Mooney, D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, No. 4. After the lodge was closed luncheon was partaken of in the ante-room and a pleasant hour spent in social intercourse. In concluding my report on Speed Lodge, I am free to say that its work is of the highest order and its members are individually a credit to the craft.

Clifford Lodge, No. 315, Clifford: I visited this lodge November 21st, accompanied from Fergus by the W.M., Rev. W. H. Harvey, who, since his election to the position of Worshipful Master, was transferred from his ministerial charge in Clifford to one in Fergus. I was also accompanied from Harriston by my immediate predecessor, R. W. Bro. A. G. Campbell and Bro. McCullough, Master-elect of Harriston Lodge. There was no work for the lodge at this meeting, but at my request the lodge was opened and closed in the different degrees, and the officers gave such evidence of proficiency that I feel they are conducting the work of the craft so as to give it due impressiveness and effect. The absence of the W. M. from the jurisdiction of the lodge (through no fault of his or the brethren of the lodge), though not conducive to the best interests of the lodge, is compensated for by the enthusiasm and capability of his brother officers, who are assisted and encouraged by the presence in their midst of R. W. Bro. Dewar, P. D. D. G. M., who still retains all his old-time enthusiasm and regard for Masonry, as evidenced by his presence at this meeting, although just very recently recovered from a very severe attack of illness. The Secretary's books I found very neatly and correctly kept. The finances are in a

very satisfactory condition, and I am assured the dues are well paid up by the brethren. Clifford possesses a nice little lodge room, and the brethren possess the true Masonic spirit, and I believe true harmony exists in their lodge. I shall remember with much pleasure the kindly greetings and truly Masonic welcome I received from the brethren of Clifford Lodge.

Harris Lodge, No. 216, Orangeville: Arrived in Orangeville by early morning train on November 22nd, 1898, and after registering at the hotel had not long to wait before I was called on by W. Bro. Mann, who presented his respects, and from whom I learned that the note sent the lodge announcing my intended visit must have miscarried, and that they were in a measure unprepared for my visit. Nothing daunted, however, Bro. Mann soon made known my presence to the W. M. Bro. Smith and R. W. Bro. McLaren, who in turn waited upon me, assuring me of the welcome of Harris Lodge, notwithstanding the unexpectedness of the visit. The work of the meeting consisted of raising a brother, which was done in excellent manner by W. Bro. Dr. Smith, ably assisted by R. W. Bro. McLaren and W. Bro. Irvine. The work of the Wardens and floor officers was well done, and I feel that the work here is conducted with a due regard to its solemnity and effect upon the candidates. A very pleasing feature of the evening's business was the conferring of life membership in Harris Lodge on Bro. Davie Dick, a Mason of fifty-five years' standing, and who has been Tyler of Harris Lodge for 28 years. The event was called forth by the intended removal of Bro. Dick to Guelph, and at the banquet afterwards he was presented with a handsome Congo oak walking cane, suitably inscribed, and an address, setting forth his good qualities and commending him to the favor of Guelph brethren and the favor of brethren wherever Bro. Dick's lot may be cast. That Masonry here is in a healthy condition was evidenced by the excellent meeting, a large number being present, though my visit was unexpected. I have a very pleasant and grateful remembrance of my visit to Harris Lodge. The cordiality of my reception, the kindness of the brethren and the enthusiasm displayed will long be pleasing memories.

Scott Lodge, No. 421, Grand Valley: On November 23rd, 1898, I visited this lodge officially. I was met at

the railway station by W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston. Though the evening was stormy and cold, there was a large attendance and a good meeting. Scott Lodge is possessed of very comfortable, well-appointed quarters and is made up of the very best citizens, who all take a lively interest in the welfare of their lodge. The lodge is growing rapidly, as many as six applications for membership being presented at one meeting. They have held a number of emergency meetings in order to keep up with the work. The work for the evening was initiating Dr. Geo. I. Campbell, and was well done by W. M. Preston. The Wardens and floor officers are to be commended for the manner in which they presented their part of the work. I was pleased to meet R. W. Bro. R. R. Hopkins, P. D. D. G. M., who is as enthusiastic as ever in the work. The Secretary, Bro. Wm. McIntyre, is one of the best in the district. His books are models. The finances are reported in good shape. Scott Lodge is one of the most prosperous in the district. Good-will and harmony prevail. After the lodge was closed a first-class oyster supper was provided in the ante-room, and a very pleasant hour spent in song, speech and story. The memories of my visit to Scott Lodge are among the happiest.

Grand River Lodge, No. 151, Berlin: December 13th, 1898, was the date of my official visit to Grand River Lodge. W. Bro. Thos. Shaw, the District Secretary, accompanied me on this visit. There was a goodly number of members present, also W. Bros. Cowan, of Galt Lodge, and Baird, of Alma Lodge, were visitors that evening. The work for the meeting was two initiations and the election of officers. The ceremony of initiation was well done by W. Bro. Minchin, W. M., assisted by R. W. Bro. D. Forsyth, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Wildfong, P. M. The work of the Wardens and floor officers was excellent and added largely to the impressiveness of the ceremony upon the candidates. The W. M. elected for the ensuing year was Bro. Rev. Von Pirch, S. W., and under his able management, assisted by a staff of bright young men as junior officers, I have every confidence that the work of Grand River Lodge will be well done for another year. Their lodge room is an ideal one, well lighted, ventilated, and very comfortable. It was a pleasure to meet R. W. Bro. Forsyth, P. D. D. G. M., who still retains his deep interest

in the craft, and especially Grand River Lodge. After the lodge was closed a luncheon was partaken of in the banquet hall adjoining.

Alma Lodge, No. 72, Galt: December 30th, 1898, was the date of my official visit to this lodge, by the request of the lodge. It was an emergency meeting. I was greeted by a fair number of brethren; was very sorry to find the worthy Secretary, R. W. Bro. A. J. Oliver, absent on account of illness incurred by anxiety and too close attention to his duties in H. M. S. Several important functions were being held in the town, which explained the absence of a number of the members, but the enthusiasm of those present fully made up for the lack in numbers. There being no regular work for the evening, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a manner which proved much skill and care on the part of the W. M. and officers of the lodge. I have frequently visited this lodge, before being so highly honored by my brethren in the district, and always found their work of the highest order; and why not, with such an array of Past Masters as we always find occupying the dais at every meeting? It goes without saying that with R. W. Bro. Oliver as Secretary, the dues and books are looked sharply after, though I am sorry to note he has failed to move a few, through no fault of his. Alma's hospitality is proverbial, and the programme following is never excelled in the district. The memories of the evening spent in Alma Lodge are among the happiest.

Preston Lodge, No. 297, Preston, was visited by me officially on the evening of January 20th, 1899. I was accompanied by several brethren of New Hope lodge. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Henry C. Edgar, which was done by W. Bro. Miller and his officers in a very efficient manner. Preston Lodge, I am glad to say, has revived very much lately and now stands well to the front in quantity and quality of the work done. W. Bro. Miller is a very enthusiastic Mason and I have met him very frequently in other lodges. He is a very regular attendant at the meetings of New Hope Lodge. Past Master Bro. A. Webster still retains his old-time enthusiasm and skill in the craft, and is a great stimulus to Preston Lodge. After the lodge we enjoyed an oyster supper in the ante-room. This was a pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Galt Lodge, No. 257, Galt: My official visit to Galt Lodge was made on February 7th, where I was accompanied by several brethren from New Hope Lodge. The work of the evening was the initiation of Bro. Dr. Cameron, and it was well and effectively done. W. Bro. Pierce, W. M., is a live, enthusiastic Mason, and he is seconded by a staff of officers who are equally enthusiastic with himself and who display their zeal in work, well prepared and well put on.

Galt Lodge is having a period of prosperity in the addition of new members, and it can be truthfully said that the more of such members enrolled among Masons as the one made this evening the better it will be for the craft.

I was particularly pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Alfred Taylor, P. D. D. G. M., who retains all his old-time interest in Masonry, and especially the welfare of Galt Lodge, as also W. Bros. Cowan and Thomas, P. M.'s of Galt Lodge, who are old-time stalwarts in zeal for the interests of craft Masonry.

Among the visitors were W. Bro. Robinson, of Treherne, Manitoba, and W. Bro. Miller, of Preston, and a large number of visiting brethren from Alma Lodge. I cannot too highly commend the most excellent fraternal feeling that subsists between these two sister lodges, Alma and Galt. After adjournment a splendid luncheon was served in the banquet hall, after which a most enjoyable hour was spent in speech and song. The quality of after dinner entertainment provided by these Galt Lodges cannot be excelled anywhere.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262, Harriston: My official visit to this lodge was on March 13th. I was met at the station by Bro. E. W. Lanibert, the efficient Secretary of the lodge. There was a large turnout of members at the lodge in the evening and the enthusiasm displayed augurs well for the future of the lodge. I was pleased to again meet R. W. Bro. Campbell, P. D. G. M., to whom I owe much for his uniform courtesy and kindly suggestions during my term of office. The work of the evening as exemplified by W. Bro. McCullough and his officers was excellent. The lodge room and furnishings are up to date. I am glad to note the interest taken in the affairs of the lodge by the large number of Past Masters who have been honored by their lodge, and especially to see so many elderly brethren in the room.

Too often the hoary heads are conspicuous by their absence. The Secretary is one of the most prompt and efficient in the district. After the lodge was closed an excellent luncheon was partaken of and the customary toasts duly honored. Everything connected with my visit to this capital lodge was pleasurable in the highest degree.

Guelph Lodge, No. 258, Guelph: At the request of this lodge I made my official visit on March 14th, 1899. The usual hearty welcome of the Guelph lodges was accorded me on this occasion. There was a large attendance of the fraternity of Guelph and Waverly Lodges. R. W. Bro. Mahoney was, as he always is, in his accustomed place in this lodge. The work for the evening was a raising which was done by W. Bro. Darby and his officers in such a manner as to be above criticism. The opening and closing in the several degrees was equally well done. I have never seen the work done better anywhere than in this and the two sister lodges of Guelph. There is a healthy, friendly rivalry between the city lodges which acts and reacts to the benefit of all. Bro. Pratt is a careful and painstaking Secretary. The dues are not as well paid up as they should be. The hospitality of this lodge is well known and enjoyed. I cannot close my report without thanking the W. M. and officers and members of Guelph Lodge for their uniform courtesy and kindness during my official career.

Durham Lodge, No. 306, Durham, was visited by me on March 21st, 1899. It was the stormiest day of the year. After reaching Durham I attempted to hunt up some of the members, but nearly froze up in the attempt. After 8 o'clock I started out to find the lodge room, which I did with some difficulty. Here I found a fair number present considering the very stormy night, the Worshipful Master and Secretary being the only regular officers present. As I had not met any of the brethren before, I requested them to put me through an examination by a board of trial in the regular way before admitting me to their lodge. This was only fairly done. The work was a passing which was not very well done. There seems to be a great lack of interest in the work of this lodge; why, I am at a loss to understand. Those whom I met are bright and well qualified for the work, if they would give it attention and promised to do better. I counselled frequent meet-

ings for practice in the work, and offered to attend any meeting to give instruction, and emphasized as strongly as I could the necessity of the officers attending the Lodge of Instruction to be held in Guelph during the month of May. This, I am sorry to report, was not done, as Durham Lodge was not represented at the Lodge of Instruction. The Secretary informs me he has a good deal of difficulty in collecting the dues. This was the only lodge in the district which failed to make provision for the expenses of my official visit.

Waverley Lodge, No. 361, Guelph: March 27, 1899, was the date of my official visit to this lodge. Bro. Wellington Keffer, W. M. of New Hope Lodge, accompanied me. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. I am pleased to note that in Guelph the brethren visit their sister lodges frequently. This can only be productive of good. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Chapman and was done almost perfectly, W. Bro. Law, his Wardens and officers giving evidence of the highest skill in the work, and are to be congratulated. Bro. Jackson, the Secretary, keeps the records and financial books in a neat and careful manner, and reports the finances in good shape. Bro. Prof. Kelley rendered two solos in his own inimitable style. After the lodge was closed a luncheon was done justice to and a half hour was pleasantly spent in conversation and listening to two recitations by Prof. Kelley, at which he is an adept. Thus ended one of the pleasantest official visits in the district.

Conestoga Lodge, No. 295, Drayton: I visited this lodge on the 28th of March, 1899. I was met at the station by Bro. Henderson, Secretary of the lodge. During the afternoon I visited Bro. Wood, who has been paralyzed for some years and unable to do anything, being almost helpless. He is bright and cheerful, and speaks highly of the kindness and consideration of the brethren of his lodge, and also of the Board of Benevolence of Grand Lodge, from whom he has received material aid in his affliction. The work of the evening was an initiation, which was fairly well done by P. M. Bro. Smith and the officers of the lodge. The work intended for the evening was a raising, but was changed at the last moment, and the initiation was gone on with. It is due to the W. M. to state that I had only notified him the evening before of my intended visit. The Secretary's

books are neatly kept. The finances are in a fair condition. After the lodge was closed we adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where we enjoyed a splendid supper a pleasant hour. The future of Conestoga promises to be bright. W. Bro. Clapp, of Harriston Lodge, was a visitor and gave some good suggestions and kindly advice.

Blair Lodge, No. 314, Palmerston: I visited this lodge officially on March 31st, 1899. I was sorry to find the W. M. unavoidably absent, but his duties were ably performed by the Immediate Past Master. A goodly number of members were present. There was no work for the evening. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and in a very creditable manner, but was not quite up to the mark at calling off and on. There has been a fair amount of work during the past year, and the prospects of the lodge are very good. W. Bro. H. Hyndman, Jr., is Secretary of the lodge and looks well after his department. The finances are in fair shape and not much arrearages. I was pleased to again meet R. W. Bro. Hyndman, Sr., who still retains his old-time interest in the craft. A splendid banquet was provided at the close of the lodge, and two worthy brethren, who are gone to seek their fortunes in Western Canada, were given a hearty send-off. Bro. Chapman, of Galt, gave two songs in his own striking and very impressive style. Speeches were made and toasts honored, and thus closed one of the most pleasurable and happy evenings of my official career.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334, Arthur: The date of my official visit to this lodge was May 4th, 1899. I was greeted here by a large number of the members and eighteen visitors from the neighboring lodges, viz.: Scott, Conestoga, Wellington, Drayton, and one from Holly Lodge, No. 134, Michigan, and one from Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford. We had a very interesting evening. They have a fine large lodge room, beautifully lighted and well furnished. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in good form. The Rev. J. J. Paterson was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in a very impressive manner. The W. M. spoke slowly and deliberately, as should always be done, especially in this sublime degree. The Senior Warden was absent owing to a little misunderstanding which I have reason to hope will soon be adjusted. A light

luncheon was partaken of at the close of the lodge, after which an official Lodge of Instruction occupied nearly an hour, which was voted by all a profitable one. The members of Prince Arthur Lodge are a fine lot of fellows, made up of the very first citizens of the place. They have held twenty meetings and initiated ten candidates during the year. Their prospects of Prince Arthur are exceptionally bright. The recollection of my visit to Prince Arthur Lodge is one of the happiest.

Wellington Lodge, No. 271, Erin: Visited this lodge on May 10th, accompanied by Bro. Shaw, District Secretary. It was their regular meeting, and the work for the evening consisted of two initiations, a passing, and the election of officers, all of which was accomplished and completed in good time, proving that the officers are well up in their work and that each at the proper time promptly did his duty. W. Bro. Jackson, W. M., conducted the proceedings, assisted by R. W. Bro. Conboy, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Leitch, P. M., and the work done by these brethren, assisted by the lodge officers, was of the best. Wellington is one of the best lodges in the district and its financial standing is excelled by none. It is enjoying an era of prosperity just now in a large influx of new members, and each meeting brings with it a large amount of work for the officers to do. The candidates of this evening were bright young fellows and will make Masons who ought to do honor to the craft. The Secretary's books were in good order and are well looked after by W. Bro. Overland. It was a particular pleasure to meet R. W. Bro. Conboy, who retains all his deep interest in Masonry, and especially in the welfare of Wellington Lodge. At the conclusion of the evening's work an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where a very enjoyable lunch was served. My reception here was most cordial, and I left Erin confident that the affairs of Wellington Lodge were being well managed and with memories of a very pleasant visit.

St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, Mount Forest: I visited this lodge on May 19th, 1899. Was met at the station by Bro. Dr. Meikle and entertained at his home during my stay in Mount Forest. There was a good attendance at the meeting. The work was passing Bro. D. M. Balfour, which was very well done by Bro. Young and his officers, who are well posted in the work. I may state

that one and all are live, enthusiastic Masons, and the prospects of this lodge seem particularly bright. The lodge room is large, beautifully furnished and well lighted. A luncheon was partaken of at the close of the meeting. My visit to St. Alban's was indeed a pleasant one.

Ayr Lodge, No. 172, Ayr: My official visit was made to this lodge on May 23rd, 1899. I was accompanied by W. Bro. P. Jardine, of New Hope Lodge, Hespeler. We were well received by a fair number, Bro. Cassie, the W. M., and several brethren looking us up some time before the hour for opening the lodge had arrived. Here I found one of the prettiest and most tastily furnished little lodge rooms in the district. The work for the evening was passing Bro. Henderson. The Senior Warden was absent, as was also the Senior Deacon. Excepting the work of the Senior Deacon—for which there was a very reasonable excuse, as he was only acting for the regular officer—the work was very creditably performed. The candidate gives promise of being an expert craftsman. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and excepting a slight error in one sign and position by the Wardens, was very well done. The lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees when I addressed the brethren, commending them on the general character of the work and pointing out any little discrepancies that I had observed. I asked the Past Masters to remain a few minutes after the lodge was closed, when I gave them a few kindly hints on the secret work and obligations in the different degrees. The finances of the lodge were stated by the Secretary to be in a healthy condition. We then adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where Mine Host Bro. Smuck, the genial Secretary, had prepared a very nice luncheon, which was done ample justice to, after which a pleasant hour was spent in story and social converse. Thus ended another of the happy evenings of my official work in the district.

Mercer Lodge, No. 347, Fergus: I am very sorry to report this lodge in a very weak condition. I understood from R. W. Bro. Campbell, P. D. D. G. M., that this lodge had had some difficulty, but had overcome it and were meeting regularly. Not receiving the usual notice of meetings, I wrote Bro. Jas. Philip, who, as far as I knew, was Secretary of the lodge. I wrote him

three times, with no result. My Secretary, W. Bro. Shaw, wrote him, the letter being returned from the Dead Letter office. On looking up the calendar I found that Mercer Lodge should meet on May 5th, and notified Bro. Philip that I would visit the lodge officially on that date, and would be passing through Fergus on the 4th of May and would like to see some of the members. Then I received a card from Bro. Jas. Beattie, stating that Bro. Philip had handed him my letter, and they would not be in a position to receive me on May 5th. I met Bro. Jas. Beattie on May 4th and he stated the lodge had not met for a long time. He had issued a circular to the members to meet on May 5th, and hoped they would again get into working order. This meeting was held with eight brethren present. Nothing was done excepting to instruct the auditors to prepare a full statement of the assets and liabilities of the lodge and report at an emergency meeting to be held on May 19th. Bro. Beattie had at the last election of officers been elected to the office of Secretary, but had not received the books from his predecessor, Bro. Philip. There were seven members at the emergency meeting on May 19th, and the Auditors' report was presented, which showed the finances to be in rather poor shape. The following is a minute sent me of this meeting: "Notwithstanding the small attendance and the state of the finances, it was resolved to continue our efforts to collect all the dues possible, and first pay off the liability to Grand Lodge and afterwards liquidate our other liabilities, as we have the funds to do so." I received the first formal notice of meeting from this lodge for June 2nd, 1899. I visited the lodge on this date officially. There were four members present, also W. Bros. Lindsay, Darby, Stephenson and Stewart, from Guelph, who had driven thirteen miles to encourage Mercer Lodge. We had an informal condition of the lodge, and the ways and means of remedying them. The W. M., Bro. Goodall, a worthy fellow, felt keenly his position as Master of the lodge, and from what he stated I think Mercer will yet take her place among the lodges of the district; at least, I am satisfied he will do his best, and I would recommend that Grand Lodge give them a little more time to revive and get into working order. I was glad to meet the brethren from Guelph. None in the district exhibit a more fraternal spirit in visiting their sister lodges than *those* above referred to.

Irvine Lodge, No. 203: I visited this lodge officially on June 16th, 1899. I was met at the station by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Petrie, and driven direct to the lodge room, where I found a large number of members and visitors awaiting me. The work for the evening was a raising, which was done in an able and impressive manner by W. Bro. Petrie, assisted by P. M. Bro. E. Burns. The floor work was well done by the Venerable Deacons. With such an array of distinguished Past Masters and P. D. D. G. M.'s as are to be found in the east in Irvine Lodge, we look for the work to be nearly perfect, and it is. I was pleased to meet P. D. D. G. M.'s Bros. T. P. Smith and Savage, of Irvine Lodge, the latter giving us an interesting account of the history of the early days of Irvine Lodge. Among the visitors were P. D. D. G. M.'s Scoon and Mahoney and a number of P. M.'s from Guelph, and W. Bro. Goodall, of Mercer Lodge. Irvine Lodge possesses the only up-to-date register I have seen in the district, and I would recommend all the lodges to purchase a similar one in the near future. We had an excellent luncheon at the hotel near by after the lodge was closed. Prof. Bro. Kelley, of Guelph, entertained us with some very nice music and a recitation, which was much appreciated. Thus ended my last and one of the happiest official visits in the district.

DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations were granted to the following lodges to attend divine service, viz.:

Conestoga Lodge, No. 295, on June 18th, 1899.

Harris Lodge, No. 216, June 25th, 1899.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262, June 25th, 1899.

I granted dispensations to the following lodges for attending funerals, and in none of these was a fee exacted, viz.:

Waverly Lodge, No. 361, to attend the funeral of our late Bro. J. C. Smith, Chaplain of the lodge, on July 28, 1898; also on June 23rd, 1899, to attend the funeral of Bro. Archie Strachan.

On April 5th, 1899, Speed Lodge, No. 180, reported attendance at the funeral of Bro. John Inglis; and on May 28th, attendance at the funeral of Bro. Allen McIntyre.

I recommended dispensations being granted to Wav-

erly Lodge, No. 361, to install their officers at 3 p.m., instead of 7:30 p.m., Dec. 26th, 1898; Guelph Lodge, No. 258, to install their officers on June 27th, 1899.

IN CONCLUSION.

I desire to tender my sincere and hearty thanks to the brethren of Wellington District for their kindness and assistance during my term of office. I have tried to prove that the confidence of my brethren was not misplaced by paying strict attention to my duty, and in my own humble way promoting the success of the craft. My services have been more than repaid by the wholehearted hospitality and support I have received. As the representative of the Grand Master, I have been accorded the greatest deference, and I lay down the mantle of office with mingled felings of gladness and sorrow. I am indeed glad to be relieved of labor and responsibility so onerous, but I am sorry to part officially from my brethren, for it has been a real pleasure to move among them. I desire to thank all those brethren who have assisted me and helped to cheer me on my way, R. W. Bro. Campbell, R. W. Bro. Scoon, R. W. Bro. Mahoney, R. W. Bro. Savage, R. W. Bro. Taylor, R. W. Bro. Jardine, W. Bros. Lindsay, Darby, Stephenson, Law, Miller, Preston, Dales, Shaw (my efficient secretary), and many others.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

R. J. LOCKHART, D. D. G. M.,
Wellington District, No. 7.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table showing the work done in Wellington District, No. 7, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Men-ber-ship.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Degree's conf'r'd		Am-litions.	Restorations.	Resignations.	S. P. D.	Suspended, other causes.	Deaths.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees	Insurance.	
									Decrease during year.	Men-ber-ship.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.										
72	Alma	Galt	90	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	10	11	12	12	\$75 00	5	\$ 49 14	June 25, '98	Al.	Good	Yes	Yes
151	Gr'n'd Riv'r	Berlin	91	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	11	12	13	24	90 00	5	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	\$ 700 00	
173	Ayr	Guelph	76	7	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	11	12	13	10	169 00	13	Dec. 11, '98	Good	Good	Yes	None		
180	Speed	Guelph	41	4	3	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	3	1	1	13	14	15	16	25 00	10	June 31, '98	Good	Good	Yes	None		
200	St. Albans	Mount Forest	41	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	13	14	15	10 00	10	June 31, '98	Good	Good	Yes	None	
208	Irvine	Elora	43	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	11	11	14	5 00	5	June 25, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00	
216	Harris	Orangeville	100	1	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	12	13	14	19	60 00	19	Dec. '97	Good	Good	Yes	500 00		
257	Galt	Galt	75	9	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	1	1	13	15	16	17	50 00	18	Dec. '97	Good	Good	Yes	500 00		
266	Guelph	Guelph	79	8	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	13	15	16	18	19 75	16	June 30, '94	Good	Good	Yes	Yes		
302	Harriston	Harriston	58	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	13	14	15	25	100 00	16	Dec. 28, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Yes		
371	Wellington	Erin	54	8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	1	1	13	14	21	20	12 00	33	Dec. 14, '98	Very good	Bright	Yes	600 00		
379	New Hope	Hespeler	55	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	12	13	14	15	6 00	10	June 31, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	900 00		
386	Preston	Preston	97	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	11	11	12	16	145 73	14	June 31, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	400 00		
397	Durham	Durham	93	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	9	83 00	3	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	400 00		
398	Durham	Durham	93	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	11	11	11	9	3 00	3	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	400 00		
314	Blair	Palmerston	52	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	11	11	11	9	61 50	3	June 30, '98	Not good	Imp'ving	Yes	None		
315	Clifford	Clifford	52	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	11	12	13	14	39 00	12	June 30, '98	Not good	Imp'ving	Yes	None		
324	Pr. Arthur	Pr. Arthur	42	12	2	10	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	1	1	11	12	13	14	93 00	12	Dec. 25, '98	Fair	Fairlygd	Yes	300 00		
347	Mercer	Fergus	41	3	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	11	12	13	20	83 00	4	June 25, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	300 00		
361	Waverly	Guelph	89	3	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	12	13	14	19	90 00	8	Dec. 27, '98	Not good	Excell't	Yes	400 00		
381	Scott	Grand Valley	26	8	10	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	1	1	1	15	16	17	18	15 00	4	June 31, '98	Good	Good	Yes	400 00		
421	Scott	Grand Valley	26	8	10	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	1	1	1	15	16	17	18	15 00	4	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	900 00		

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In compliance with the requirements of duty, I respectfully submit my report of the condition of Masonry in the Eighth (Hamilton) Masonic District, and of my official acts as District Deputy Grand Master during the past Masonic year.

I have visited each of the twenty-one lodges in the district once—all but six of them more than once. In making official and unofficial visits I have had the company, the kindly assistance and the wise counsel of many distinguished brethren. It is not possible to give the names of all to whom I have been thus indebted; but I may be permitted to return special thanks to M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray; to R. W. Bros. Emory, Gunn, Holden, Hoodless, Malloy, Mason, McCallum and Miller; to V. W. Bros. Cox and Latshaw; and to W. Bros. Birrell, Breckenridge, Clarke, Crawford, Cunningham, Dixon, Elliott, Gauld, Greenhill, Henderson, Jardine, Kappele, Kittson, Lee, Levy, Matthews, Mercer, Montague, Morgan, Parke, Reynolds, Riddell, Smith, Somerville, Witton and Zimmerman. I have not felt at liberty to invite any large number of brethren to accompany me at any one time, feeling that the lodges themselves should be the judges of the number of guests they would entertain. It is quite possible to make the visit of the District Deputy a burden upon the resources of a lodge.

The general condition of Masonry in this district is eminently satisfactory. With very few exceptions, the lodges are prosperous, progressive and harmonious. The officers generally are skilled craftsmen; and, so far as I have been able to observe, the Masters of the several lodges are prudent and cautious men, able to rule their brethren with firmness and discretion.

During the year I have issued four dispensations, all

for permission to wear Masonic regalia while attending Divine service. I heartily approve of attendance upon church service by Masons as such. The public procession of the brethren, clothed in regalia, forms an object lesson which can hardly fail to have a salutary effect. The dispensations granted were to Seymour Lodge, Sept. 11; Dufferin Lodge, Sept. 25; Strict Observance, Dec. 18, on which occasion all the city lodges attended; and to Doric Lodge, No. 382; also for the whole of the Hamilton Lodges. I had the pleasure of attending with Seymour Lodge, Sept. 11, when brethren were present from Dufferin, Valley, Waterdown, Harmony, St. Andrew's, and from all the city lodges. The excellent and impressive sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Mr. Adams. A very touching part of the ceremony was the procession of the brethren to the several cemeteries in Ancaster, and the placing of flowers on the graves of departed brethren. Oct. 2nd a number of brethren from Hamilton, Dundas and West Flamboro accompanied Waterdown Lodge to church at Millgrove. A most eloquent and instructive sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Beavis. Oct. 9 a church service was held at Caledonia, when Rev. Bro. Adams was again the officiating clergyman. I was unable to be present, but R. W. Bros. Hoodless and Malloy and a large number of brethren from Harmony, Seymour, Enniskillen and Hagersville lodges were among the visitors. Nov. 20 a large number of the Hamilton brethren, as well as many from Union (Grimsby), Ivy (Beamsville), and from Harmony, Dufferin, Seymour and Burlington, joined the Wentworth Lodge in a church service at Stony Creek, when Dr. Beavis again officiated. Dec. 18, the city lodges attended Divine service at St. Thomas' church, when the rector, Bro. James, delivered an excellent and highly instructive sermon. The offertory was for the benevolent fund of the city lodges. Again, on the 25th of June, 1899, the city lodges attended church at the Centenary Methodist church, when Bro. the Rev. Mr. Routledge, of the First Methodist church, preached the sermon, which was one of great power and ability.

I have not, during the year, held any Lodges of Instruction. The brethren from the country cannot attend a lodge of instruction in Hamilton without staying over the night; and, to the majority, the expense of so doing would be felt to be a burden. On the other hand, if

lodges are held out of the cities, the burden upon the entertaining brethren is considerable, and no point in the district is easily accessible to more than four or five lodges. Considerable instruction has, however, been given, though not in the formal way. At Millgrove the first degree was excellently worked by V. W. Bro. Cox, assisted by R. W. Bro. Hoodless, V. W. Bro. Latshaw, W. Bros. Levy and Smith, and by myself. In other lodges I have worked degrees, in whole or in part, and have had assistance from many skilled craftsmen in doing so. A custom which I think of great value, and which cannot be too highly commended and encouraged, is that of officers of one lodge filling the chairs and doing work in other lodges. I think that, in the Eighth District, we owe this practice to the Temple Lodge, which, for some time, has been in the habit of inviting the Master and officers of some other lodge to visit Temple and to work a degree. This has a two-fold effect for good. It calls upon the visitors to study their work carefully, and to render it as effectively as possible; and it directs attention to slight differences of practice which may have crept into the work. Not only have the city lodges thus interchanged working visits, but the custom has spread far beyond the city. On the 21st of October the Master and officers of Zetland Lodge, Toronto, paid a visit to the Lodge of Strict Observance, when the visitors worked the first degree in an excellent manner. The visit of the Master and officers of Wentworth Lodge to Temple Lodge, when the first degree was worked by the visitors, was another object lesson of great value to all who were present. I think that if these inter-lodge exemplifications of degrees could be extended they would prove to be more valuable than ordinary schools of instruction.

I heartily believe in encouraging the social side of Masonry, and think that the banqueting room is of high importance in promoting fraternal feeling. But I am afraid that in some instances the expenditure for refreshment has been beyond the means of the lodges, and has kept them poor. It would not do to lay down any hard-and-fast rule for regulating the outlay in the banqueting room. Still, the great disproportion in the accounts of some of the lodges between the outlay for refreshments and that for charity is cause for serious thought. Two examples set in this district have at-

tracted my attention, and are, I believe, worthy of commendation. The brethren of Wentworth Lodge, when the labors of the evening are ended, adjourn to a suitable place, and have refreshments served to them at a moderate price, each brother paying his proportion of the expense. This I understand to be the old custom among Masons, and I am sorry that it is not more generally observed. At St. George the brethren have an annual summer festival, which takes the form of a garden party, to which ladies and others not Masons are invited. There is no doubt that these festivals are highly enjoyable, and I think the example set by the St. George brethren worthy of imitation.

In addressing the lodges in this district I have, in every instance, I think, explained the desire of the Grand Master that earnest effort be made to restore suspended members to active usefulness in the lodges. So far as I am able to learn, these appeals have as yet little effect. The ground I have taken is that if a brother is unable to pay his dues the lodge should, from time to time, cancel his obligation and keep him good on the books. This can be done without humiliation to the brother, and without record of his name in the transaction. A motion may be made that an order be drawn on the treasurer for a sum to pay the dues of "a brother," and nobody but the Master and the Secretary need know who that brother is. But if a member can pay his dues and will not, there is no course open but that of suspension. Such men have not the principles of Masonry in their hearts, and the lodges are better without them than with them.

I regret very much that the practice of canvassing for office is still practiced to some extent in the district. This has been strongly condemned in Grand Lodge, and cannot be too severely reprobated. An office conferred by the good-will of the brethren is an evidence of respect and confidence, and, according to its importance, a testimonial of ability; but a personal request for votes is an acknowledgment that the solicitor could not on his merits obtain the suffrages of the brethren. Nor should systematic canvassing for candidates be encouraged. It is impossible to say how far effort in behalf of any brother is permissible; but it is very evident that the use of systematic and sustained electioneering methods is calculated to create cliques and to injure the order.

We are again called upon to deplore the departure of many of our brethren from the scene of their labors. The names will be found in the general list in the proceedings to be published. More than passing mention should, I think, be made of the death of R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, whose sad death was widely and deeply mourned. For a quarter of a century Bro. Murton had been identified with the Scottish Rite to such an extent that he has been called the father of the Rite in Canada. But he never lost his interest in the Blue degrees, nor ceased to teach that Craft Masonry is the foundation of all Masonry, and essential to its existence. Several times he filled the Master's chair; once he served as Grand Senior Warden; and for several years he was an active and zealous member of the Board of General Purposes. His remains were followed to the grave by the Grand Master, a number of Past Grand Masters, and eminent brethren from this and other jurisdictions; and his loss will be deplored throughout the Masonic world.

Without mentioning occasional visits to city and near-by lodges, and attendance upon church services, already spoken of, my visits, official and unofficial, have been as follows:

Sept. 28: Official visit to Harmony Lodge, Binbrook. The second and third degrees were worked by the Master and Past Masters. The work was creditable, especially that of the chief officers. This lodge has an excellent record. It is doing good work, has the best record in the district for the average attendance of members, and fully deserves the name it bears. The progress which the lodge is making is largely due to the active interest which the Past Masters take in its welfare.

Oct. 11: Official visit to Brant Lodge, Brantford. The Brantford brethren have a beautiful room, finely furnished, and they are among the brightest Masons I have met. Under the able guidance of W. Bro. Frank Brant Lodge has had a very successful year. The first degree was worked in almost faultless style. I was particularly impressed with the floor work, which showed patient and effective instruction and drill by the chief officers. I hesitate to praise highly the Master whose own work is correct, but whose subordinates show lack of instruction. I need have no hesitation in giving praise to Brant Lodge. I was pleased to see W. Bro.

Waterous and many members of Doric Lodge as visitors to Brant. There has been a little lack of cordiality between the two lodges, which, I trust, is changing for the better.

Oct. 21: The W. M. and officers of Zetland Lodge, Toronto, accompanied by a large number of brethren, visited the Lodge of Strict Observance, when the visitors exemplified the first degree in a highly creditable manner. The visit was graced by the presence of the Grand Master and many other distinguished brethren.

Oct. 25: Official visit to Waterdown Lodge. Since its removal to Millgrove the lodge has been doing very well indeed. It has comfortable quarters, is getting a number of new members, is in fair financial condition, and gives promise of taking a good place among the lodges of the district. There is a disposition to enlist some of the younger members for active duty in the lodge, and to put new life and energy into its work. Brethren from Valley, Dufferin, Seymour and several of the Hamilton lodges are frequent visitors at Millgrove.

Oct. 27: Official visit to Dufferin Lodge. This is a good lodge, with many active and zealous members. W. Bro. Trapp is one of the most expert craftsmen in the district. Some improvement in the quarters occupied by the brethren is to be desired. The junior officers had evidently been well instructed. Brethren of surrounding lodges seem to consider it a privilege to meet with their brethren of Dufferin.

Nov. 21: Official visit to Wentworth Lodge. This is one of the most active, zealous and useful bodies of Masons in the jurisdiction. It may safely be called a model lodge. Its oldest Past Masters and its youngest members vie with each other in zeal and activity. It is getting most excellent material, and a good deal of it; its work is done in an exemplary manner; its financial position is excellent; and its prospects are highly encouraging. W. Bro. Springsteed is an indefatigable worker, and he has the cordial support of a large number of skilled Past Masters. It is possible for the brethren to improve their lodge room by making the approach more commodious. The custom of this lodge respecting refreshments is referred to elsewhere.

Nov. 23: Unofficial visit to Doric Lodge, Brantford, at the invitation of W. Bro. Waterous, when I worked the third degree.

Nov. 25: R. W. Bro. Hoodless and I made an unofficial visit to Credit Lodge, Georgetown, where a disturbing element has threatened the peace of the lodge. There have been a number of blackballings, and the affairs of the lodge are made known to the outside public. The situation is one that has given me considerable concern.

Dec. 9: Official visit to Acacia Lodge. The Hamilton lodges are all so prosperous; their affairs are so well managed; they work together with such harmony, and they so well exemplify the true spirit of Masonry that it is not easy to write of them without falling into mere panegyric. Acacia Lodge is in no particular behind any of its sisters. Under the able supervision of W. Bro. Levy, it had a highly prosperous year, and that prosperity appears to continue under the present Master. The election was marked by harmony and good feeling, each displaying a desire to obey the injunction to "esteem others better than himself."

Dec. 13: Official visit to the Temple Lodge. This is among the younger lodges of the district; but it has taken a place second to none. Its increase in membership has been greater than that of any other lodge in Hamilton; and I am happy to know that none but good material is received. Temple is unfortunate in having lost its Master, W. Bro. Livingstone, who has removed to Vancouver; but its affairs are well looked after by the Immediate Past Master, W. Bro. Zimmerman.

Dec. 15: Official visit to St. John's. This, in point of numbers, is the banner lodge of the jurisdiction. It closes the year with 355 members. It has given to Masonry many active and useful craftsmen. I think the attendance of Past Masters is larger than in any other lodge in the district. At this, the annual meeting, no less than sixteen Past Masters were present. W. Bro. Mercer closed a highly successful year and he is followed worthily by W. Bro. Sommerville. The Secretary of St. John's, V. W. Bro. McAllister, is justly praised for his efficiency as an officer and for the neatness of his books.

Dec. 16: Official visit to the Lodge of Strict Observance. Another lodge with an honorable record. Last year it celebrated its jubilee, and marked the occasion by endowing a ward in the new wing of the City Hospital. This is practical charity of the best character. The position of Strict Observance is of the highest char-

acter, its officers are Masters in Israel, and it is fully living up to its privileges. It is conservative in its methods, financially prosperous, and is in the best of honours. Immediate Past Master Parke was a model Master, and the present Master, W. Bro. Breckenridge, is fully maintaining the traditions and carefully guarding the interests of the lodge.

Dec. 21: Official visit to Burlington Lodge. The election was not characterized by that harmony which should always dwell in a Masonic lodge. Political feeling has unfortunately been allowed to pass the doors of this lodge, and its presence is doing a great deal of harm. We always agree that men may, and in the nature of things must, differ on many points; but it is equally certain that when sectarian or partisan feelings are permitted to influence Masons in their Masonic affairs, the result will certainly be disastrous. I can only hope that the brethren will see that it is absolutely necessary to leave their party feelings behind them when they enter the lodge portals.

Dec. 22: At the invitation of R. W. Bro. Hoshal, D. D. G. M. for the Ninth Masonic District, I visited Union Lodge, Grimsby, on the occasion of the official visit of the brother named. It was a most delightful visit. Union Lodge is one of the oldest in the jurisdiction. The brethren will celebrate the centennial of their organization in August, and there is no doubt that those who are privileged to be present will heartily enjoy the ceremonies. The Grimsby brethren are famed for their hospitality.

Dec. 27: By request I conducted the installation of the officers of Strict Observance, St. John's, Acacia and Temple lodges, assisted by R. W. Bros. Mason, Gunn, Miller, V. W. Bro. Cox, W. Bros. Clarke, Dixon, Kittson, Lee, Matthews, Reynolds and Witton.

Dec. 28: Official visit to Barton Lodge. This was one of the "high festivals" of the year. It was chosen as the occasion for presenting M. W. Bro. William Gibson a service of plate by the officers of Grand Lodge. Among the distinguished visitors were M. W. Bro. Malone, the Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Hungerford, Deputy Grand Master; and a long list of members of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Also W. Bro. Prowse, and a number of brethren of Washington Lodge, Buffalo. The presentation was made by M. W. Bro. Murray, and was

acknowledged in fitting terms by the retiring Grand Master, who made use of the occasion to say some very nice things of "the old Barton," his mother lodge. A banquet followed at the Royal Hotel, at which all the prominent guests were present. The Barton Lodge, now in its hundred and fourth year, stands in need of no praise at my hands. Under the Mastership of W. Bro. Witton it has fully maintained its honorable record.

Jan. 20, 1899: Official visit to Credit Lodge, Georgetown. W. Bro. Finlay worked the first degree in a very creditable manner. This is a good lodge, with an honorable record. Unfortunately, there is some lack of harmony among the brethren. Blackballings have been frequent, and the affairs of the lodge are made known to the profane, so that some of the best members of the lodge feel great discouragement. I hope that time and patience will correct the evil.

Jan. 23: Official visit to Walker Lodge. This is a small lodge, with conservative methods. The Past Masters are zealous and are doing good service. I think perhaps there would be more activity if some of the younger members were enlisted in the work. Harmony prevails among the brethren; the financial condition of the lodge is good, and the officers are well skilled. The outstanding dues are more than should be permitted, but the Secretary assures me that the sums are all good.

Jan. 25: Official visit to St. Clair Lodge. The Milton brethren are good Masons, doing good work, and they have a fine lodge. Of them I may say, as I have said of the Acton Lodge, that perhaps they should push some of the younger members more to the front. A considerable number of the brethren live at a distance from the town, and the attendance is thus made smaller than it would be otherwise. The Past Masters are zealous and attentive; and the lodge is prosperous and harmonious. The lodge is fortunate in retaining the services of W. Bro. Coates as Secretary.

Feb. 17: Official visit to Doric Lodge, Brantford. This is one of the most progressive and enterprising lodges in the jurisdiction. More than a score of candidates were initiated during the term of W. Bro. Watrous, and since his retirement the activity has been maintained. The third degree was worked in fine style. I was much gratified to observe, in addition to other visitors, the presence of R. W. Bro. Hoshal, of the Ninth

District, and R. W. Bro. Allen, of Toronto. Many of the officers and members of Brant Lodge were also present.

Feb. 21: Official visit to Oakville Lodge. This is a comparatively new lodge; but it has some excellent material, and is doing fine work. W. Bro. Ford was new to the work; but he worked the second degree in good style, and the Wardens and other officers showed that they had been well instructed. A number of able and zealous Past Masters give valuable aid in carrying on the work of the lodge.

Feb. 23: Official visit to St. George Lodge. This is in many respects a model lodge. After a period of comparative inactivity it took on a new lease of life, and is now worthy of earnest commendation. W. Bro. Fleming has his work well in hand, and has carefully instructed his junior officers. I was much pleased with the parts of the work which I saw. The Past Masters give valuable assistance.

March 22: Official visit to St. Andrew's Lodge. An excellent lodge, with a good reputation, and many active brethren. The first degree was worked in good style. The lodge room has recently been improved and partly refurnished, and is very comfortable and commodious. A number of brethren were present from Enniskillen Lodge, York. St. Andrew's is a lodge one desires to visit again; but circumstances have forbidden me to make more than the one visit.

March 24: Unofficial visit to Wentworth, when all three of the degrees were worked by the Master and Past Masters of the lodge, with some assistance from visitors.

April 6: I visited St. George and worked the third degree.

April 19: Official visit to Seymour. W. Bro. Walker was unavoidably absent, but the first degree was excellently worked by W. Bro. Stewart, assisted by W. Bros. Daniels and Smith. Seymour is famed for its hospitality and the number of visitors is always good. The lodge is in fine shape, and is justly proud of the excellent material it has.

April 24: Official visit to Wentworth, when all three of the degrees were again worked.

May 22: Official visit to Valley Lodge. This is one of the lodges which give me some anxiety. There have

been differences in the lodge, which keep many of the members absent, and have a depressing effect. There is excellent material in Dundas. It is to be desired that the members, instead of absenting themselves from the meetings, lend their active influence to the restoration of harmony. I think that a somewhat better feeling is now exhibiting itself; and there is reason to hope that better times are about to dawn. The lodge room has recently been redecorated, and the brethren are in very comfortable shape.

June 19: Official visit to Doric Lodge. This was the last, and one of the most pleasant, of my official visits. Doric. This is the youngest lodge in the city, but it has made for itself an excellent reputation. For some years it struggled with debt, but it has now cancelled all its obligations, has a comfortable surplus in its treasury, and its prospects are very bright. Doric is fortunate in having secured for its secretary so excellent an officer as R. W. Bro. Emory.

June 24: By request of the Masters, I installed the officers-elect of the Barton and Doric Lodges, assisted by R. W. Bros. Emory and Miller, V. W. Bro. Cox, W. Bros. Bethune, Cunningham, Dixon, Lee, Matthews, Purrott and Reynolds.

June 26: Assisted by R. W. Bro. Miller in installing the officers-elect of Valley Lodge.

June 27: Attended the summer festival of St. George Lodge. A very pleasant entertainment.

In all my visits I have experienced the utmost kindness from all the lodges. The brethren of the Eighth District do not forget that hospitality and courtesy are Masonic virtues; nor do they permit any accredited Mason who comes among them to feel that he is a stranger. By this ceaseless kindness my labors have been made light, and my duty a pleasure.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. T. FREED,

D. D. G. M. Hamilton District, No. 8.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in The Hamilton District, No. 8, from June 94th, 1898, to June 94th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of All Mem. Increased during year.	Decrease during year.	Mem-ber-ship.	Degre's confr'd	Am-putations.	Re-sig-nations.	Sus-pensions, N. P. D.	De-ceased.	Meet-ings held.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arreages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
6	The Barton	Hamilton	318	8	3	9	5	6	3	3	6	11	619	100	35	\$127 50	June 24, '99	Good	Yes	\$300 00	
37	Strict Obs'r	Hamilton	371	7	1	7	9	6	5	3	4	1	114	45	28	308 76	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Gener'l	
40	St. John's	Hamilton	335	1	12	12	19	3	2	3	3	13	53	181	86	181	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Gener'l	
45	Brant	Brantford	128	8	10	6	3	3	3	3	13	15	197	31	90	341 00	June 24, '99	Good	Yes	1000 00	
57	Harmony	Binbrook	57	6	8	7	1	1	1	1	13	14	90	00	31	60 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	800 00	
61	Acacia	Hamilton	267	8	17	16	14	3	6	3	13	4	39	77	01	135 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	Gener'l	
62	St. And'r ws	Caledonia	36	3	4	4	3	1	1	1	15	17	77	01	45	13 75	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	150 00	
100	Valley	Dundas	71	1	1	3	2	1	3	1	14	15	66	28	4	138 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	No	500 00	
131	Doric	Brantford	172	24	35	31	18	8	1	3	13	25	33	97	275	00	Feb. 15, 1894	Good	Very fair	Yes	1300 00
135	St. Clair	Milton	56	3	6	6	8	1	3	6	1	14	13	30	00	7	80 00	1894	Fair	Yes	600 00
166	Burlington	Burlington	52	2	4	4	8	1	1	1	14	15	5	00	7	43 00	Good	Good	Yes	300 00	
166	Wentw'rth	Stony Creek	84	10	4	4	6	1	1	1	13	16	48	60	19	195 00	Dec. 27, '98	Solvent	Yes	987 00	
219	Credit	Georgetown	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	15	10	00	19	195 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	587 00	
243	St. George	St. George	45	4	6	6	4	1	1	3	15	15	40	60	19	100 00	June 24, '99	Bright	Yes	450 00	
272	Seymour	Ancaster	53	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	13	15	10	00	6	100 00	June 24, '99	Very good	Yes	900 00	
291	Dufferin	W. Flamboro	49	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	13	15	10	00	6	100 00	June 24, '99	Fair	Yes	900 00	
321	Walker	Acton West	24	2	4	4	6	1	1	1	13	16	14	36	00	194 75	Dec. 30, '98	Fair	Yes	900 00	
354	Temple	Hamilton	235	17	11	10	10	6	1	4	13	15	30	56	00	194 75	Dec. 30, '98	Fair	Yes	Gener'l	
367	Water w'n	Millgrove	43	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	13	14	31	00	57	79 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Yes	150 00	
368	Doric	Hamilton	159	1	8	5	3	1	1	1	13	14	13	00	58	260 00	June 24, '99	Bright	Yes	Gener'l	
400	Oakville	Oakville	84	3	6	5	6	1	1	1	13	15	94	00	34	148 43	June 24, '98	Good	Yes	400 00	

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present to you my report on the condition of Masonry in the Georgian District, No. 9, for the year 1898-9, and am pleased to be able to record a most satisfactory condition of things. Whilst the old and prosperous lodges are nearly all holding their own, not only numerically and financially, but with respect to the character of the work done by the officers, their less prosperous sisters have made the most rapid progress and improvement. The most encouraging feature, however, is the renewed life and vigor which the two weakest lodges are enjoying. For some time past Simcoe Lodge at Bradford and Georgian Lodge at Penetanguishene have been very weak and unsatisfactory, so much so as to have called for a very decided expression of opinion from more than one of my predecessors; indeed one of the lodges has been on the verge of surrendering its charter; it is, therefore, with unmixed pleasure that I am able to report that both lodges are doing excellent work and making progress, both rapid and substantial; indeed, one of them bids fair to set the pace for many of the larger and more prosperous lodges, in the increase of membership of the highest order, and in the character of the work done, whilst the other is but little behind. It is a pleasant coincidence that this unexpected and welcome change should have occurred during my year of office, and I have no doubt that my successors will find both lodges thoroughly alive and progressive; indeed, there appears to be a great awakening and revival of Masonic life everywhere throughout the jurisdiction, which is, no doubt, largely due to the energy and ability of those distinguished brethren who have preceded me as rulers in this jurisdiction, but after all, has depended for its vital force chiefly

on the true Masonic spirit of the officers and working members of the various lodges. For accuracy and finish, the work in this district will compare favorably with that of any other district in your grand jurisdiction, to which fact, I believe, the M. W. the Grand Master will, to some extent, bear willing witness.

VISITS.

A detailed report of every official visit will be found elsewhere. I may state generally that I sent out a circular notifying each lodge that I should expect an opening and closing in the three degrees, the calling on and off, and the conferring of one or more degrees on their bona-fide candidates. This was done; and in case of no regular work I asked for the exemplification of at least one degree on a volunteer. In nearly every case, however, I had a bona-fide candidate.

I felt it to be my duty to take copious notes during the evening, and drew the attention of the officers to every mistake made, however small. Although in some cases this took a good deal of time, and must have occasionally left the impression that I was hypercritical, unnecessarily particular and too exact, I bear willing testimony to the unfailing courtesy with which the frankest criticism was always received, owing to the desire to be put right, which everywhere met me. It certainly made the unwelcome task of criticism much lighter and pleasanter, as well as, I think, more profitable.

NON-AFFILIATES.

I have long felt that the steadily increasing number of non-affiliates was a standing menace to the craft, and the timely and thoughtful words of the Grand Master determined me to make a special effort to redeem the growing evil. I therefore wrote the following letter to each lodge:

Office of the D. D. G. M., District No. 9,
Barrie, Nov. 28th, 1898.

Dear Sir and Brother—

Referring once more to the paragraph re non-affiliation in my first official circular, I would request you:

To read this letter in open lodge, to ascertain from every source the name of any brother now residing within your jurisdiction who is not affiliated and to send me his name and address with such additional facts as you think may guide me in writing to him personally. I shall at once send him a copy of inclosed circular (which please read in open lodge) accom-

panied by a private letter urging him to affiliate without delay, which may result in materially increasing the membership and efficiency of your lodge.

At the same time I earnestly ask your lodge to take action in two directions:

1. That the officers and members should see these non-affiliates and personally urge them to return to active membership, and that you should report to me if any of them stand suspended by sister lodges; if so, giving the name of lodge and other information.

That a committee should be at once appointed to enquire into the circumstances of any brother suspended, or about to be suspended, by your lodge with a view of finding out what arrangements can be made to restore him to his former place amongst you or prevent his suspension; even if it should be necessary to forgive him the entire debt and to make special arrangements for the future.

In my experience I have found that many suspensions have been caused by the neglect of the officers of a lodge to press (personally if necessary) for the payment of dues while yet the amount was small.

Brethren, let me urge upon you to "remember the peculiar moment in which you were received into Masonry," and to ask yourselves if it be not possible to cast the broad mantle of Masonic charity over your suspended brethren, and thus restore them to your fraternal circle and the fulness of Masonic light.

Let me assure you of any active co-operation you may desire from me whatever the labor involved, and may the Most High prosper our united endeavors."

I am, courteously and fraternally, yours,

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.

P. S.—All information may be addressed to myself personally or to W. Bro. W. J. Hallett, District Secretary, Barrie.

To every member whose name was sent me by the officers of the lodge I sent out the following circular, accompanying it by a short personal letter, and, in addition, I extended an invitation to meet me on the occasion of my official visits:

To My Non-Affiliated Brethren of Georgian District, No. 9,
A. F. & A. M.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Among the serious problems which Masonry has to face and solve to-day is the question of demitted or non-affiliated brethren. The degree of injury that is done to Masonry by Masons in this way may be gathered from the fact that it is estimated that there are 750,000 non-affiliates in the United States, and the number in this Grand Lodge Jurisdiction is probably as large relatively. An effort is being made by the M. W., the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, to lessen the number, and he has requested his District Deputy Grand

Masters to assist him. Having been honored by my brethren with the position of D. D. G. M. of this District, I am endeavoring to induce every worthy brother to renew membership in his lodge or to affiliate with some other, as may be the more convenient.

In some cases a brother takes out his demit on changing his place of residence, postpones affiliation and gradually becomes indifferent. In other cases a brother thinks he is too busy to give the time to his lodge (only nine or ten evenings out of the 365), and so gradually drifts away. Sometimes a brother from sheer carelessness neglects his dues and—when they have grown fairly large—repudiates them and suffers himself to be suspended. There are also a few brethren whose Masonry cannot stand the test of a personal misunderstanding with another brother, and who do injury to their lodge rather than “endeavor to settle their differences amicably.” And there are also those who “perhaps from unseen circumstances of misfortune and calamity” have been unable to pay their dues, have been unwilling to say so, and have in consequence been suspended.

I have been informed, my brother, that you are a non-affiliate and that, in consequence, not only are you denied the pleasure of meeting your brethren “within the close-tyled door,” but that they lose the gratification of “greeting you as a brother,” and the lodge itself is deprived of the assistance and the renewed life and vigor which every good member brings with him.

I believe it to be a sacred duty (imposed on him by his obligation), which every Mason owes to the lodge in which for him “there was light,” to stand by his mother lodge, particularly when she is suffering from the temporary depression to which most lodges are periodically subject, and this duty is infinitely more binding on Past Masters in relation to the lodge which gave them their rank and honors. If he cannot attend his mother lodge, and there is anything in Masonry, his brethren in the nearest lodge have a right to his active sympathy and personal assistance and support.

On the other hand, I hold it to be only living up to the Masonic principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, for a lodge to deal most leniently with a brother who has suffered through his misfortune, not his fault, even should it have to go to the length of remitting his back dues altogether.

I invite you, my brother, to assist me in this good work. If you are demitted, affiliate without delay and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you the doing your duty by your brethren and the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of which we should all be proud. If you have been suspended apply at once to the officers of your lodge to see if you cannot come to some satisfactory arrangement with them and kindly let me hear from you promptly, being assured that you will have my active sympathy and assistance, and that you may command my services in any way that will serve your interests and those of the craft. You were once “happy to meet” your brethren, and I have no doubt “sorry to part” from them;

may you be soon "happy to meet again" "to work together with that love and harmony which should at all times characterize Freemasons."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours courteously and fraternally,

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.

As my efforts were met in a true fraternal spirit and most cordially seconded by the officers of the lodges, as well as by lodges outside the jurisdiction, the results were gratifying, although I did not succeed to the extent that I had hoped. My successor will, however, find his work in this direction made easier and more effective.

I cannot resist the conclusion that non-affiliates are, as a rule, quite as much "sinned against as sinning," and that the number of suspended members almost always depends on the "skill and ability" displayed by the W. M. and the Secretary, aided by the other officers of the lodge. It seems to me that in the general interest of the craft, Grand Lodge would be justified in taking action towards making the subordinate lodges in some way responsible for the amount of dues in arrear. Careful enquiry made during the past year, backed by my own experience, leaves no doubt on my mind that if the W. M. and Secretary were alive to their duties and actice, and had any assistance from the other officers of the lodge, 75 per cent of the suspensions would be avoided and the individual lodges would be much better off, financially and otherwise. I do not think that I need go into particulars. I have yet to meet an experienced Mason who does not know how suspensions are usually caused, and who does not agree with me in the statement made above.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Obeing the recommendations and requirements of Grand Lodge, a Lodge of Instruction was held in Barrie on 16th March, 1899, and on the testimony of those present few such events have been so largely attended or so generally successful. Over 200 members, representing nearly every lodge in the jurisdiction, besides visiting brethren, answered the summons to improve themselves and to honor M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, our popular Grand Master, who was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, Toronto District. The three *degrees* were fully worked by the brethren of Manitou

Lodge, Collingwood; Simcoe Lodge, Bradford, and the sister lodges, Corinthian and Kerr, Barrie. The work called forth the warmest praise from the Grand Master, the D. D. G. M. and other visitors, and a great many points were cleared up.

My warmest thanks are due to the officers and brethren throughout the jurisdiction for the active and enthusiastic support they gave me on the occasion of this Lodge of Instruction.

In this connection I cannot avoid mentioning the great variety in the rendering of the work, largely caused, I believe, by the widely different rulings which appear to have been given at different times by successive D. D. G. M.'s who have been quoted (or misquoted) to me in defence of certain unauthorized or incorrect practices. Lest I should add any note to the inharmonious chorus, I have refrained from giving any ruling, except as decided by the regular officials of Grand Lodge. I am unable to resist the conclusion that private opinion, or bias, has in many cases (within and without this jurisdiction) decided acts and questions which should have been determined by the proper officer of Grand Lodge alone. Liberty is one thing, license quite another, and unquestionably much greater uniformity than exists is desirable.

INSTRUCTION OF CANDIDATES

Of one more topic I desire to speak in order to enter my earnest protest on the insufficiency of the teaching given to our candidates. Nearly all are able to answer the "set" questions; a good many can give the 2.O.B.'s, a few more can give "prove to the Wardens" (without prompting by the Deacons), that "they are in possession of the secrets of the previous degree," but here, in the overwhelming majority of cases, the instruction ends. The candidates are not taught the O. B. in the third, nor do they subsequently pass any examination of this degree. But, above all, they know nothing of the harmony of the degrees, the meaning of any portions which are at all obscure, and they are ignorant of the symbolism of the Royal Art. Masonry to such candidates has no meaning; it is a mere body, beautiful, perhaps, but without soul or life, and therefore powerless to exert any influence over their intellects or their lives. Is it any wonder that instead of Masons enlight-

ened by the truths of Masonry, governed by its laws, warmed by its hidden fires, guided by its traditions and precepts. ruled by its truths, and influenced throughout their lives by its noble teaching, we have so many "members" who see in it merely a road to position, an asset which may be utilized for their personal advantage, or at best a pleasant pastime for idle evenings, and who, when the one palls, or the others fail (as they are all sure to do if there be nothing else), grow indifferent and allow themselves to be suspended or take out their dimits, not infrequently finishing by representing the craft to the outside world as an institution in which there is nothing to attract or to hold, which has indeed been their experience. Such men have looked on the outside of the temple, and have seen even that through a mist, but the doors to them have been closed; they may have got a passing glimpse of the casket; not a ray from the jewel has ever been seen; nay, its very presence has not even been suspected, and yet we, the officers, of the lodges are (shall I say criminally?) responsible for this. We wonder that some of our lodges do not prosper, and we are surprised that we have difficulty in getting good workers, or in awakening and sustaining any real enthusiasm on the side benches. I can bear witness to the effect produced on candidates by proper and systematic teaching, which may begin even before the candidate enters the lodge. Let us see to it that we do our teaching in this direction more thoroughly than has been our custom; the light must come from the east. In this connection it is an open secret that Masters are sometimes installed before they are able to give even one degree, to say nothing of the three, and that they finish their year of office very much as they began it. What effect must such men have on the candidates and the welfare of the craft!

DISPENSATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Several dispensations have been issued for Masonic funerals and attendance at Divine worship. A new lodge room has also been built and beautifully furnished in Bradford. This is now ready for dedication, but the Grand Master has too many demands on his time just now to perform the ceremony. In order to have the honor and pleasure of his presence, I have advised deferring the ceremony until after the meeting of Grand

Lodge, when he has been good enough to signify his willingness to be present.

I have been compelled to refuse an application for opening a lodge at Victoria Harbour, not that the necessary money was not ready, not that there were not a number of Masons "good and true" in the immediate neighborhood, nor that there had been any failure in complying with the legal requirements, but because experience in two parts of this jurisdiction, supported by the opinion of many other D. D. G. M.'s, has convinced me how fatal a mistake it is to multiply lodges unnecessarily; how grave a wrong is done to the craft by opening a lodge where it will be weak, and where its establishment must necessarily weaken a neighboring lodge, so much as to prevent its doing its work properly. One fairly strong lodge should be a credit to the craft, a blessing to its members; if divided into two they may work irreparable wrong to the individuals and do serious injury to the usefulness of the fraternity.

I have written up to date 837 letters on matters connected with the office of D. D. G. M.

CONCLUSION.

In bidding farewell officially to the officers and brethren of the various lodges in this jurisdiction, it is a pleasure to have this opportunity of thanking them for their unvarying kindness and thoughtful courtesy. Every effort which I have tried to make in the interests of the craft would have been vain had I not enjoyed their generous confidence and hearty co-operation; they have greatly assisted me in the discharge of my duty, materially lessening its difficulties and anxieties, lightening its disappointments, and adding generously to its enjoyments, thus making it indeed a labor of love and its performance an unmixed pleasure. I am painfully conscious of my shortcomings and mistakes, yet I trust that my brethren will throw over them the Masonic mantle of charity and render the kindly verdict, "At least he tried to do his duty." They will always have my kindest wishes and hearty co-operation in anything which they may seek to do for their lodges, or for Masonry. I shall never forget their loyal support and generous consideration. I hope that the many friendships formed during the year may never be broken, but rather grow stronger. Within their sacred walls may their

children, and their children's children, celebrate with joy and gratitude the constant recurrence of all their auspicious solemnities, and may the genuine tenets of our time-honored institution, our Noble Science, our Royal Art, be transmitted through their lodges, pure and unsullied, from generation to generation, strengthening and brightening the five-fold indivisible chain which should ever bind Masons together, till time itself shall be merged in the countless aeons of a measureless eternity.

Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford: Was visited at its regular meeting, January 20th. This lodge had for some time been in a very bad condition, so much so that on more than one occasion they had been on the point of giving up their charter, but, fortunately, better counsels prevailed, and now it is one of the most active and progressive lodges in the district. On the night of my official visit they initiated one candidate, passed two, balloted favorably on an applicant, and read another application. A reference to the tabulated statement will show that vigorous life has continued. The degrees were so excellently worked that I invited the officers to exemplify the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction, as an object lesson on what energy and true Masonic spirit can do towards awakening a lodge practically dead and ready to be "indecently interred." The result amply justified the invitation. The brethren entertained me in their banquet room with their accustomed hospitality at the close of the work and a delightful evening was spent, a pleasant incident being applications for affiliation from two reverend brethren (for years non-affiliates) who, at my request, were invited to meet me, and who will doubtless prove a great acquisition to the lodge.

St. George's Lodge, No. 88, Owen Sound, and North Star, No. 322, Owen Sound: It is the time-honored custom, in the good town of Owen Sound, for these sister lodges to join together on the occasion of the visit of the D. D. G. M., the result being always, as it was at my visit, a most brilliant success. The fine lodge was quite filled, there being a large number of visitors present, in addition to the members of both lodges. The east was quite filled with Past Masters, and among them we had the two veteran Masons, both D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bro. Creasor and R. W. Bro. McKnight. The occasion was the regular meeting of North Star, February

1st, and they accordingly opened and transacted their business, after which the officers of St. George's took the chairs and initiated a candidate in excellent style, under the able guidance of W. Bro. Campbell, whose good example has clearly acted as a spur to his officers. After this the officers of North Star resumed their places and exemplified the third degree in a very satisfactory manner, which was all the more creditable, as not only the W. M. but all his officers had been so recently elected and installed. The books, etc., of both lodges were very well kept. After closing down, an adjournment was made from honest labor to pleasant refreshment, and two or three hours were spent most enjoyably in their fine banquet room, where a substantial supper was followed by some excellent Masonic speeches. The attendance, as shewn by the register, was greater than at any previous meeting, and the brethren of Owen Sound can be warmly congratulated on the life and vigor which are so manifest in both lodges.

Manitou Lodge, No. 90, Collingwood: I have had the pleasure of visiting this lodge twice. On the first occasion I installed the newly-elected officers on St. John's day, in the presence of a very large gathering of the brethren. I was that night impressed by the intelligent interest which the newly-elected officers took in the ceremony of installation, and by their work in closing on that occasion, which was exceptionally good. This bud of promise bore the fruit of very satisfactory work on the occasion of my second visit, March 1st. There was no regular candidate, but a brother volunteered his services, and I witnessed an excellent exemplification of the initiatory ceremony. The fine large room lends itself to a military accuracy on the floor work, and this was fully taken advantage of. I desire to make special mention of the almost faultless rendition by Bro. Junior Warden of the fine lecture in the first degree. On this occasion, also, there was a large attendance, the east being well occupied, and among the P. M.'s were to be specially noticed the three P. D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bros. Nettleton, Toner and Aylesworth. The Collingwood brethren evidently believe in refreshment as well as labor, for at both of my visits they had a most pleasant fourth degree, followed by toast, speech and song, and the W. M.'s story, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren and equally by the visitors.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie: My official visit was paid to this, the old banner lodge, on the evening of March 2nd. The attendance was very large, there being 76 brethren present, among whom were many members of Kerr Lodge, besides visiting brethren from other lodges. The east was more than completely filled, R. W. Bros. Monkman and R. E. Fletcher and a large number of Past Masters occupying every seat. Two candidates were very impressively initiated, one by I. P. M. W. Bro. F. N. Warren, and the other by W. Bro. F. M. Montgomery, P. M. The W. M., W. Bro. Cowan, then passed to the second degree a candidate who had been most thoroughly prepared, and who did credit to his instruction. The work done by the officers of the lodge was well nigh faultless, and, all the officers of the considered, was the best work presented to me at any official visit. The visiting brethren, with myself, afterwards enjoyed the fine banquet which was spread in the refreshment room, and after doing full justice to the good things there presented and listening to many a good speech and song, the J. W.'s toast was given, and we separated, carrying away a recollection of a most pleasant and profitable evening, whether spent at labor or in refreshment.

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford: My official visit to this lodge was paid March 13th. I had arranged a previous date, but as this would have interfered with the religious duties of one of the principal officers, by request I most willingly changed the date. Several of the brethren met me at the station, and for about two hours afterwards we held at the hotel an informal conference on lodge matters, which was most helpful to me, and I trust will prove of general advantage. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance at night, including a long list of Past Masters, and the regular work (the initiation of a candidate) was quite well done, in spite of the very evident nervousness of the W. M. A pleasing feature was the presentation of two applications for affiliation (as the result of an interview which I had with them) from two brethren who had long been out of practical Masonry; a good example, which there is every reason to believe, will be followed by others. The fourth degree, following the hospitable tradition of Pythagoras Lodge, was a perfect success, being marked by the most cordially fraternal feeling. At the request of the brethren,

I remained over until the next afternoon in order to conduct the Masonic burial service over Bro. MacRae, a former resident of Meaford, and an active member of Astor Lodge, New York, who, as a result of exposure during the Cuban war, had died at Hot Springs, Arkansas. His remains were at once taken charge of by the brethren there and sent on to Canada by his brethren of Astor Lodge, who asked Pythagoras to give him a Masonic burial. Over 60 brethren turned out, though it was a very cold day, to pay this "last tribute of respect to departed merit." So marked a proof of the "world wide universality of the science" must have a good effect on the outside world. The future of Pythagoras Lodge is very bright.

Orillia Lodge, No. 192, Orillia: This lodge was officially visited at its regular meeting on February 24th. With so enthusiastic a Mason as R. W. Bro. Roper, P. D. D. G. M., "the guide, philosopher and friend" of the lodge, and with the goodly array of P. M.'s who still remain in active membership, the work should be, as it is, very good. The excellent work of the officers was much enhanced by the beauty of the room, and the convenience and fitness of its appointments. Taken altogether, and considered from the standpoint of work, it is the most complete lodge room that I have visited in this grand jurisdiction; the scene for the third being particularly worthy of mention. This is all the more creditable to the lodge, as not long ago they lost everything in a fire, and, as it happened, they had at the time very little insurance. There may have been a good reason against the granting of any favor, but if not, any consideration at the hands of Grand Lodge would have been not only appreciated, but richly deserved. The work (an initiation, the ordinary openings and closings, calling on and off, etc.), was well done, and had the merit of being uniformly satisfactory, down to the lowest officer. Afterwards the brethren proved their proficiency at the fourth degree, which was fully exemplified and thoroughly enjoyed, until the summons from the J. W. parted for the night all members "leal and true." The prospects of Orillia Lodge are very bright, and the few enthusiastic brethren who bravely faced the dark days of adversity may now well feel proud at the result of their loyal adherence to No. 192.

Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie: I paid my official visit to this, my mother lodge, at the regular meeting. February 20th, the ordinary routine of the lodge going on as usual. As I am a regular attendant at its meetings I was quite prepared to find excellent work, and should have been surprised had it been other than satisfactory. A large number of visitors, in addition to the members of the lodge, were present, and all equally enjoyed the fine exemplification of the third degree, the ceremony of which was rendered doubly impressive by the splendid equipment and accessories of the lodge room, and by the excellence of the candidate, who was thoroughly prepared. The lodge is doing very well under W. Bro. H. E. Jory. I prefer to leave to others any words of individual commendation or the reverse, and shall merely say that the Masons of Barrie pride themselves on the fact that in few places will there be found any lodge doing better work than may be seen on any night in Kerr, or at her sister, Corinthian.

Beaver Lodge, No. 234, Clarksburg: With their accustomed courtesy, Beaver Lodge represented by the popular Grand Organist, V. W. Bro. D. Kent, and the W. M. Bro. Pedwell, met W. Bro. H. E. Jory, of Kerr Lodge, Barrie, and myself at Thornbury, February 21st. At 7:30 we drove over to the lodge room at Clarksburg, where I had the pleasure of assisting at the birth of their last baby, a sturdy infant of about 200 pounds avoirdupois, who exhibited a most intelligent interest in the new Masonic world to which he then opened his eyes. The work throughout was very well done by W. Bro. Pedwell and his efficient officers, the floor work generally, the charge and the J. W.'s lecture calling for special mention. Universal regret was expressed at the absence, through illness, of W. Bro. J. Dickinson, P. M., whose work as Secretary cannot be surpassed anywhere. After work we adjourned to the banquet room and enjoyed ourselves as only Masons can, toast, speech and song most pleasantly passing until the J. W.'s toast sent us "wandering out into the night." There were 40 brethren present, including R. W. Pro. Pye and twelve Past Masters, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. Beaver Lodge fully sustained its already high reputation for unbounded hospitality, and the domestic infelicity of two members of their menagerie, owned by "Miss Sarah Brown," "a meek-eyed donkey and a very martial roos-

ter," afforded us unbounded enjoyment. The prospects of Beaver Lodge are the brightest.

Manitoba Lodge, No. 236, Cookstown: I paid my official visit on January 31st, getting out of a sick-bed in order to keep my appointment, as did also the W. M. La grippe was very prevalent, so that two officers and the candidate were laid up, and at the last minute Bro. J. W., a popular physician, was hurried away on a sick call. This, with the indisposition of the W. M. himself, naturally interfered very seriously with the work, which was, however, better than might have been expected under the circumstances. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, called off and on, and a first conferred on a brother who kindly assumed the role of the candidate. The officers expect to have affiliations as the result of my circular. A most pleasant incident was the fraternal visit paid by brethren of Simcoe Lodge, Bradford, who drove over twelve miles on a very cold night in order to be present. R. W. Bro. Broughton, W. Bros. J. S. Boddy, E. Boddy, J. Ogilvie; Bros. Oldham, S. W.; A. E. Scanlon, J. W., and others were present and added much to the enjoyment of the evening. This visit is worthy of imitation by the craft generally; brethren exchange ideas and compare notes; the isolation from which so many country lodges suffer is lessened, and the fraternal bond undoubtedly strengthened, to the great mutual advantage of every one concerned.

Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, Midland: I arranged to pay my official visit February 14th, and actually went up for the purpose. On my arrival, however, I found that several of the officers had been summoned away by telegram that very day to Montreal on a matter affecting in the highest degree the welfare of the town; therefore, although I saw some work, it was not done by the regular officers, and therefore was useless as a basis of any opinion. At their request I joined them at the fourth degree, for which, in ignorance of the telegram, previous arrangements had been made, and I promised to return later. Meantime an unfortunate incident which happened in the town decided me on allowing them to recover from its effects. Finally a meeting was arranged for in June, but two days before it I was requested by the W. M. not to come, as some of the officers had gone up the lakes. There has been trouble within the lodge.

but I understand that it has been settled, largely by the tact and genuine Masonic spirit of Bro. Dudley, the W. M., and although things are very far from what I would have them, yet I believe that Caledonian Lodge, Midland, will not forget its old-time vigour, but will, in the near future, enter once more on a season of prosperity.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, Stayner: I made my arrangements for my official visit to this lodge in February, but was requested to defer it in order to give the officers an opportunity of improving themselves in their work. Being warmly interested in the standing of every lodge in this district, and particularly in one of which I had been for some years a member, I readily agreed, and postponed my visit until May 30th. The consideration was, however, thrown away. After waiting until after 9 o'clock the W. M. was unable to "make this lodge perfect," and no meeting was held. Nor was I able to examine the books, for although the Treasurer's book was there, he was not, nor was the Secretary. The audit had not been made, and I could not get the necessary books and papers to assist me in any way. Three candidates have been patiently waiting for some time for initiation (one was on hand on the night of my visit), but apparently there is neither the ability nor the willingness to confer the degrees, and no meeting has been held since January. R. W. Bro. Sanders, however, tells me that the W. M., Bro. Harold Sheppard, has got up his work very well, and as far as I was able to observe, this seemed to be the case. This condition of things proves conclusively how serious an injury is done to the dignity and usefulness of Masonry by granting dispensations to two small places, situated as are Stayner and Creemore. There used to be one efficient lodge at Stayner; now there are two, neither of which is, or seems likely to be, a credit to the craft, as a glance at the tabulated statements will show. It is clear to me that in the interest of Masonry one of the charters should be removed; which one should, in my opinion, be decided by Grand Lodge with as little delay as possible, for every day will increase the difficulty of decision and injury to Masonry.

Seven Star Lodge, No. 285, Alliston: I was met on Wednesday, March 22nd, at Cookstown, and driven over to Alliston; the roads were in a bad condition and we

had heavy rain, with a thunder storm, yet the attendance was over twenty, and to my surprise and great pleasure, the work was most creditably done, not only by the W. M., but by all the officers. My list of criticisms, as compared with those given to the majority of lodges, was small, and suggestions for improvement were received in the best spirit; indeed, very many questions were asked me relative to the work, and these showed an intelligent enthusiasm on the part of those present. As usual I asked for opening and closing in the three degrees and so on, and also witnessed a very creditable exemplification of the third degree. I was also present when a board of trial examined a visiting brother from Toronto. Seven Star Lodge may have been in a very unsatisfactory condition for years; of this I cannot speak, but if so it certainly is very different now. The brethren have a nice little room, equipped rather better than the average; their financial condition is good; the books are excellently kept; the work for me was well done; the utmost harmony seems to prevail, and the members will compare in Masonic intelligence and enthusiasm with most of the lodges. At about 12 we adjourned to their cosy banquet room, where a couple of enjoyable hours were spent, until we followed the electric light, and perforce went out.

Minerva Lodge, No. 304, Stroud: I paid my official visit to this lodge on the evening of March 21st. A large number of Barrie brethren intended accompanying me, but at 6:30 Bro. Bailey, Bro. Willis, J. W. of Corinthian, and myself faced a gale and started in a blinding snow-storm to reach Stroud. The roads were well-nigh impassable and it took us till 8:30 to cover the eight miles. A few brethren were present, patiently hoping for, but not expecting us. Under other circumstances there would doubtless have been a fair attendance. They opened and closed in the three degrees, called on and off, and initiated two candidates. The work was very poorly done, except by the W. M., who had evidently given some time and attention to it. However, the mistakes were carefully pointed out, and I promised that I would, if the brethren requested it, pay them a visit in a couple of months, so as to give them an opportunity of improving in the interval. My second visit was arranged for Monday, June 19th, but being called away by my official duties as School Inspector, I was unable to go. I have

learned, however, that the lodge has greatly improved. I have been one of those who have thought it a mistake to keep up a lodge here, only eight miles from two excellent lodges in Barrie, but after conversation with the brethren I have somewhat modified my opinion, and it is at least pleasant to be able to say that Minerva now seems wakening up. Two more candidates have been ballotted for and accepted, and they report others to follow. The books are well kept by Bro. Chantler, and the prospects of the lodge are better than they have been.

Prince Arthur, No. 333, Flesherton: Going down from Owen Sound on the afternoon of February 2nd, I had a pleasant drive to the lodge, where I was warmly welcomed by the officers of the lodge. The membership is not very large, and la grippe being in evidence everywhere, only a small number registered. Among those, however, are many enthusiastic Masons, including Past Masters Richardson, Bellamy, Mitchell, Dr. Carter and others. The majority of the officers appeared very earnest, and W. Bro. McGill's manner was pleasant and impressive. In view of the fact that two of the necessary officers were absent through grip, the work was very creditably rendered, whilst the routine work, calling on and off, opening and closing in the various degrees, was accurate and precise. On leaving the lodge room we found that the Masons' wives and daughters had spread in the refreshment room a *recherche* banquet, to which ample justice was done, after which a couple of hours were most enjoyable spent in the interchange of Masonic thought and sentiment until long past "the solemn tolling of the midnight hour." The prospects of Prince Arthur are brightening every day.

Georgian Lodge, No. 348, Penetanguishene: This lodge has been having an up-hill fight ever since the opening of "Caledonian" at Midland, only three miles away, and, indeed, but for the dogged devotion of one or two brethren among the veteran Past Masters, among whom W. Bros. J. J. Buckley and W. Bro. Geo. Wright should especially be mentioned, it must more than once have gone out of business. It is therefore with peculiar pleasure that I now report the lodge not only healthy, but vigorous and progressive. I drove over from Midland on Thursday, the 16th, and was met by W. Bro. Norton. The initiatory ceremony was performed on a *most intelligent* candidate in a thoroughly creditable

manner; indeed, knowing the difficulties which the present officers have had to overcome, its excellence came in the nature of a very pleasant surprise to me. The floor work was especially neat and accurate. Two applications have already come in, and several have asked for admission in the near future, so that the success of the lodge is assured. The attendance was large, being materially increased by the fraternal visit of the W. M. and several of the brethren from Caledonian Lodge. On the occasion of my visit two prominent citizens who had withdrawn applied for reaffiliation, and it is hoped that others will follow their excellent example. The fourth degree was a great success, about 50 sitting down to well-furnished tables, at which three hours were most pleasantly spent in Masonic manner until the J. W.'s toast made us indeed "sorry to part."

Lorne Lodge, No. 377, Shelburne: Here again the ravages of la grippe kept away more than one of the officers and half the membership, and thus prevented the lodge from making the excellent showing of which Lorne Lodge is capable. In addition to these difficulties my visit on February 3rd was the first occasion on which the W. M. had been able to be present since his installation. In spite of this, however, his work was most creditable, and Bro. S. W. was also good. In Bro. Junior Warden's absence, a "tried and true" Past Master, W. Bro. Douglas took his place and filled it with credit to himself and profit to the lodge, his lecture in the south being very impressively given. General regret was felt at the absence, through severe illness, of W. Bro. Mason, the popular Secretary of the lodge. Several visiting brethren contributed to increase the enjoyment of the evening's banquet, which was in accordance with the traditions of the lodge. The slight difference between Lorne Lodge and the brethren of the surrounding district seems to have passed away, and all misunderstanding has been removed by the election of W. Bro. Symington, of Dundalk, to the East. The lodge itself is slowly recovering from the recent disastrous fire; the room is good, the appointments fair, and they are being gradually improved. A reverend brother reaffiliated on the occasion of my visit, and the brethren believe this good example will be quickly followed by others.

Spry Lodge, No. 385, Beeton: I visited this lodge on the evening of March 29th. Contingents from Al-

liston and Bradford had promised attendance, but the almost impassable roads not only prevented their being present, but kept away many of the members, so that the attendance was small. It was therefore quite late when the lodge was opened. I was much pleased by the exemplification of the third degree on a bona-fide candidate, and I had scarcely any criticism of importance to make on the working of the lodge, the floor work being thoroughly accurate. I was also much gratified by the care which had evidently been given to the instruction of the candidate. The books were neat and accurately kept, and the dues well paid up. The room is nicely furnished, fairly equipped and very comfortable. W. Bro. Croft is to be congratulated on the condition of his lodge, and on the enthusiasm which he and his officers display. At the close of the work we adjourned to the pleasant banquet prepared by the hospitality of the brethren, but account of the lateness of the hour no toasts were proposed except the time-honored one "The Queen and the Craft," which brought our banquet to a close shortly after 12.

Nitetis Lodge, No. 444, Creemore: I paid one official visit on December 28th, having only a small attendance. W. Bro. Joseph Hood took the chair, opened and closed in the three degrees, and conferred a second degree. W. Bro. Hood's work is well known, and the J. W., Bro. Brown, is evidently both capable and ambitious, but the S. W. was absent at both visits, and it is difficult for two officers to carry the work through satisfactorily without the active co-operation of their colleagues. I earnestly hope that for the sake of the enthusiastic Masons who are interested in the success of the lodge, the granting of the charter may eventually prove to be in the interests of the craft. At this visit I regularly constituted the lodge and handed over the charter. At the request of the M. W. the G. M., I paid a second visit, February the 28th, for the purpose of seeing that their by-laws were made regular and legal, and in order to correct irregularities which existed in the election and installation of officers. Although only seven were present I was received with every courtesy by them, and with W. Bro. Hood's assistance I left them in good shape. If Nitetis is to prosper, however, or even to exist, the officers must be ready to make some sacrifice of their business, and of themselves, in order to advance her interests; in

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fact, Masonry must be put first, personal considerations
nowhere.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. C. MORGAN, D. D. G. M.,
Georgian District No. 9.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present this my report on the condition of Masonry in District No. 10, and a record of my acts as your representative in Niagara District, No. 10, during the past year.

My first official act was to appoint Wor. Bro. Rev. C. Scudamore, of Enniskillen, No. 185, as Chaplain for the district, whose zeal and activity as a Mason pointed him out to me as worthy of that honor.

I have visited each of the 21 lodges in the district and am exceedingly pleased to say that I was received with the most unvarying kindness and courtesy. In most of the lodges I had the opportunity of witnessing degrees conferred, and where I found that there was no work I had the W. M. open and close in the three degrees. In this way I have had very good opportunity of judging the character of the work as performed in each, and as to the fitness of the officers for their positions. I found in every instance the W. M. was capable of conferring the degrees, and in some cases the entire work as performed by the W. M. and his staff was of a high standard and deserving of much commendation. In fact the work as performed throughout the entire district is fairly uniform and quite in accordance with the regulations of Grand Lodge.

I noticed with a great deal of pleasure, when making my visits, the invariably good attendance of the P. M.'s, who by their presence aid so materially in keeping up the zeal and energy of the younger members, as well as assisting by their advice and experience in administering the affairs of the lodge.

The year has been marked by a fair degree of prosperity in the district, though perhaps not so great as I could have wished. The greatest harmony prevails, all

rejoicing in the steady and noiseless bounds of general prosperity our order is enjoying throughout the world. I have tried to impress upon the officers and members the good effect of frequent visits upon the brethren, not only in good fellowship, but in bringing about uniformity of work.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Niagara Lodge, No. 2, Niagara-on-the-Lake: I visited this lodge on Wednesday, October 26th, 1898, the regular meeting. For some reason not accounted for, no notice of my visit had been given the membership, so that the attendance was not perhaps as large as I had anticipated. However, "Old Niagara" confirmed on this occasion all the very pleasant things that have been reported of her by my various predecessors. In the absence of degree work at my request the W. M., W. Bro. Lyall, ably assisted by his staff, opened and closed in the several degrees in a very satisfactory manner. The proverbial generous hospitality of this, the premier, lodge was very much in evidence. P. M. Wor. Bro. Fred Best, Mayor of the town, ably assisted by Bro. Dr. Chrysler, apparently considered it necessary to surround my person with the protecting care, for which reason during my stay in the historic old town any chance complain of loneliness was completely removed. Their courteous attentions shall not be forgotten.

Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby: Visited this lodge on their regular meeting, Dec. 22, 1898. The attendance of members and visitors (notwithstanding the annual High School closing exercises falling on the same evening) was good. There being no degree work, the W. M., very ably assisted by his subordinate officers, opened and closed in the three degrees in a most satisfactory manner. To me this visit was made especially enjoyable by having in attendance R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, D. D. G. M. of the Hamilton District, whose polished eloquence and genial manner was highly appreciated; also Wor. Bro. J. W. Jardine, W. M. of Wentworth Lodge, No. 166. The officers and members of No. 7 succeeded most admirably in making the social function a charming one. They were busily arranging for their approaching centennial, which event I am quite sure will be red-letter day in the history of Grimsby. Their rooms are handsome and kept in the most perfect order. In fact,

Union, No. 7, is certainly among the foremost lodges in my jurisdiction. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. Sykes, is most careful and painstaking; his records are certainly model ones.

St. George, No. 15, St. Catharines: Visited at regular, January 24th, 1899. The work for the evening was the conferring of the Entered Apprentice Degree, which was very creditably exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Dr. Merritt, the Wardens and other officers. The tracing board lecture in the south was particularly well rendered. Attendance was fair. R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors, P. D. D. G. M. for this district, and a number of P. M.'s, W. M.'s and members of the other city lodges, were in attendance. The books of the lodge are very neatly and correctly kept, Bro. Lindsay being one of the model Secretaries of the district. The W. M. informed me that they were assured in the very near future a number of most desirable petitions would be before the lodge. A most recherche dinner at the Welland House, generously attended by members of No. 15 and visitors, was evidence to me of the culture and refined taste of St. George.

Amity, No. 32, Dunnville: Visited this lodge at the regular meeting, Dec. 27, 1898, anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. The installation of the officers for the ensuing year was the only work, which interesting ceremony I performed, Wor. Bro. G. D. Robertson, the W. M.; Bro. T. W. Brown, S. W.; Bro. Thos. Marshall, J. W., impressing me most favorably with their methods and manners. V. W. Bro. Wm. Braund, the Secretary, is too well known a Mason to require any comment. The attendance was large. More than the usual number of highly distinguished brethren were present; four P. D. D. G. M.'s, viz., R. W. Bros. John Parry, T. L. M. Tipton, S. Amsden, of Unity, and R. W. Bro. W. Jacques, of King Solomon, 329; also R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, of Amity, Grand Registrar. A number of P. M.'s, W. M.'s and brethren from the neighboring lodges were in attendance. From the very general opinion of the officers, I am led to hope that No. 32 is entering a period of marked prosperity. A banquet served at Bro. F. Ardeley's and presided over by Wor. Bro. G. D. Robertson in a very polished and charming manner, concluded one of my most pleasant visits.

St. John's, No. 35, Cayuga: I visited officially at the

regular, April 27th, 1899. The turnout was fair. This lodge is growing numerically very rapidly and certainly is enjoying great prosperity. The W. M., Wor. Bro. L. L. Barber, and his subordinate officers gave me a very fair exemplification of the work in the second degree. A candidate was raised to the sublime degree, the east being filled by Wor. Bro. Sommerville, of St. John's lodge, No. 40, Hamilton, in a most charmingly natural and unaffected manner. St. John's is deeply indebted to V. W. Bro. I. G. Carruthers for his untiring zeal and generous assistance, and much, indeed, of the prosperity she now enjoys is due to his efforts. Her able and long-serving Secretary, Wor. Bro. C. C. Gibson, is another model officer.

Maple Leaf, No. 103, St. Catharines: This is the strongest lodge in my district. I visited on Thursday, Jan'y. 26th, 1899, the regular meeting. The attendance of members and visitors was fair. The work for the evening was the sublime degree. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Hodgins, assisted by P. M.'s Merriman, Sutherland and R. W. Bro. H. Johnson, P. D. D. G. M. of District No. 10, gave all present a most pleasing and convincing example of how exceedingly interesting really impressive work is. R. W. Bro. H. Johnston was elected Secretary to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Parnell. The R. W. Bro., from his long experience and superior advantages, should be of great service to Male Leaf. The prospects of this lodge are certainly very promising, being officered by bright and capable Masons, so ably aided and assisted by zealous and willing P. M.'s. The function closed with a banquet at the Grand Central, a most enjoyable and profitable adjunct to a charming evening. I desire to make especial mention of the very kindly and courteous attention shown me by R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors, not only at this, but on each of the three official visits I paid to the metropolis of the Niagara District.

St. Mark's, No. 105, Niagara Falls South: Visited this lodge at regular meeting on 22nd November, 1898. There was a fair attendance of the members, together with a number of visitors from several of the neighboring lodges. Being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. H. F. Garner, opened and closed in the three degrees in a very creditable manner. The election of the officers for the ensuing year resulted apparently to the

entire satisfaction of all, Bro. Hull, their exceedingly efficient Secretary, being elected to the east. My visit to St. Mark's was rendered especially enjoyable by the presence of Wor. Bros. G. R. Powell, C. C. Gibson, L. L. Barber; Bros. J. E. Skiel and H. E. Burrows, of St. John's Lodge, No. 35, Cayuga; also Bros. Dr. D. E. Russell, of St. Andrew's, No. 62, Caledonia, and W. J. Allan, of Strict Observance, Hamilton. These brethren very kindly escorted me from Cayuga. We were all most sumptuously entertained at the Prospect House by the brethren of St. Mark's.

Ivy, No. 115, Beamsville: Visited this lodge at the regular meeting, April 25th, 1899. On my arrival in Beamsville I was welcomed by the genial and polished "Andy." All Masons who have enjoyed a visit to Ivy will recognize V. W. Bro. A. Simpson by this name better than any other, I am quite sure. The candidate expected for a raising did not materialize, consequently opening and closing the lodge in the three degrees was the only work I witnessed, but from the manner in which this was performed I feel quite sure that the work done in old Ivy is certainly up to the standard. After the meeting all visitors, and there were a number present, were entertained in the now famous manner known only to the Masons of Beamsville. The visit was made exceedingly pleasant to me by all.

Merritt, No. 168, Welland: Visited at the regular May 22nd, 1899. Attendance of members and visitors good. The work, an initiation, was performed in a most charming manner by Wor. Bro. Crow, a P. M. of Merritt Lodge. His support from the other officers was almost faultless, especially the lecture from the south, which was given by Bro. Simpson, of Ivy Lodge, in an unusually impressive style. The two lodges in Welland suffered a serious set-back in June, 1898, losing absolutely everything by fire, but I am exceedingly pleased to see that they now are again meeting in new and handsomely appointed quarters. Harmony and good fellowship is very much in evidence. The Secretary and W. M. pro tem. both assured me that their prospects were of the most roseate character. After closing the lodge refreshments were served in the banqueting room adjoining. Speeches, music, etc.

Macnab, No. 169, Port Colborne: My visit was made

21st February, 1899; the regular meeting. There was a very good turn out. The evening being very wet and disagreeable, no doubt interfered considerably with the attendance. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Mathews, in the absence of other work, opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner. The assistance rendered him by his staff was certainly very satisfactory, particularly when we knew that this was only the second meeting they had since their installation in their different chairs. The books are neatly and carefully kept. Bro. Cook being a most painstaking and zealous Secretary. Macnab Lodge has, I think, good prospects.

Enniskillen, No. 185, York: This lodge I visited on Sept. 27, 1898. The attendance was good. Officers and members evince great interest in the order and expressed a most commendable desire to improve their lodge. The W. M., Bro. Scudamore, assisted by P. M.'s Wm. Clark and Thompson, conferred the sublime degree. Their style of work requires great improvement to render it even fair. However, the W. M. and Wardens promised me greater attention to this, and I have no doubt they will apply themselves at once. The books are not in as satisfactory a condition as I could wish, and I trust my successor may find and be honestly able to report an all-round improvement in my old neighbor, Enniskillen.

Mountain, No. 221, Thorold: My visit to this lodge was on Nov. 23rd, 1898. Attendance was fair. In the absence of other work the W. M., Wor. Bro. Fraser, opened and closed in the different degrees correctly. The assistance rendered him by his subordinates was all that could be desired. I found at the Secretary's desk the brother mentioned by so many of my predecessors, Bro. Fish, whose long service in this position evidences Masonic zeal seldom equalled. The brethren of Mountain completely overwhelmed me with their generous hospitality. A very pleasant feature of the meeting to me was the presence of so many P. M.'s. This lodge room is among the finest in the district, and No. 221 should aim to continue in the front rank.

Clifton, No. 254, Niagara Falls, Ont.: I visited Clifton at their regular on 2nd February, 1899. The attendance was splendid, there being a number of visitors from the neighboring New York State Lodges as well as a large turnout of members. Two candidates were ini-

tiated. The work was performed in a most impressive and polished manner. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Wood, the S. W., Bro. J. O. Doran, the J. W., Bro. Baker, all displayed more than the usual careful preparation; also the floor work of the J. G. was excellent. The Secretary, Bro. Gray, is evidently very painstaking and enthusiastic. They have comfortable and well furnished rooms, are certainly in a most thrifty and prosperous condition, perfect harmony and the greatest enthusiasm prevailing. Clifton Lodge is undoubtedly one of the finest in Western Ontario. My old friend, R. W. Bro. Coy, P. D. D. G. M. of this district, was in attendance.

Seymour, No. 277, Port Dalhousie: Visited at their regular, January 2th, 1899. A very nice turnout of P. M.'s and old members greeted me. They having secured the necessary dispensation, I installed their officers for the year, and, judging from the appearance and efforts of these brethren, I think Seymour Lodge is in good hands. Their rooms are comfortable, and although not strong numerically, theirs, in my opinion, is a case of quality rather than quantity.

Temple, No. 296, St. Catharines: This lodge I visited on its regular, 30th November, 1898. Was very kindly received at my hotel by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Chas. O. Beam, who accompanied me to the Temple. The craft in the City of the Saints are to be congratulated upon the handsome, in fact, luxurious suite of rooms they occupy, much the finest in the district. The initiation of a candidate was very correctly done, and I desire to congratulate Wor. Bro. Beam and his assistant officers upon the all-round efficiency evidenced. Bro. Macgregor, the painstaking Secretary, gave me much valuable information as to the affairs of Temple Lodge, also concerning the craft generally in the city. I was also placed under obligations to R. W. Bro. C. H. Connors for his thoughtful and considerate kindness. The attendance at this meeting was perhaps somewhat shrunken in consequence of St. Andrew's Society holding their annual banquet the same evening, at which I was informed a large number of Temple's P. M.'s and members ("Jock Tamsin's bairns, you know") were in attendance.

Hiram, No. 319, Hagersville: Visited on Thursday, Sept. 29th, 1898; the regular meeting. There being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. McNichol, opened

and closed in the three degrees. He and his entire staff satisfied me that they carefully prepared and impressively performed their degree work. A petition was received, and I cannot see any reason why Hiram should not be ere long one of Niagara's banner lodges. The Secretary, Bro. Forbes B. Geddes, is most painstaking and his services cannot be too highly appreciated.

King Solomon, No. 329, Jarvis: This lodge I visited Sept. 23, 1898. I was accompanied by Wor. Bros. G. R. Powell and L. L. Barber, of St. John's Lodge, No. 35. The lodge is very comfortably housed and apparently nothing but the most perfect harmony prevails among its membership. The attendance, in consequence of a perfect downpour the entire afternoon and evening, was small. There being no degree work, the W. M., R. W. Bro. Jas. Noble, and his officers, gave me an almost faultless exhibition of the opening and closing ceremonies in the different degrees. We were very handsomely entertained at Bro. Hill's American Hotel. The books, etc., of King Solomon's Lodge are in a perfect condition, Bro. D. Hill being one of the most efficient Secretaries in my district.

Myrtle, No. 337, Port Robinson: Visited Myrtle March 21st, 1899; the regular meeting. The membership is not large, consequently the attendance was only fair. However, I am inclined to think that many much larger lodges have not the same amount of enthusiasm and genuine Masonic application. Their exceedingly neat and comfortable rooms, the anxiety expressed relative to their prosperity was evidence to me that No. 337 has that which will in due time satisfy themselves and all others. Wor. Bro. Bennett, the W. M., gave me an illustration of their style of work by opening and closing in the three degrees. His support was fair. Wor. Bro. Sowersby, the Secretary, cannot be given too much credit for his zeal and activity in struggling against the greatest difficulties.

Dufferin, No. 338, Wellandport: Visited this lodge on Oct. 25th, 1898; a regular meeting. The attendance, membership considered, was fair, all evincing very great interest in the program and general prosperity of Dufferin. There being no degree work, the W. M., Wor. Bro. Wm. E. Shafter, opened and closed in the several degrees. In the person of W. Bro. D. C. Holmes, they have a most careful and painstaking Secretary, and

I feel that the welfare of this lodge is assured from the very great interest taken by so many of the older P. M.'s, among whom I desire to mention Wor. Bros. N. Shafley, D. C. Holmes, J. R. Goring and Hanson Gracey. My visit to Dufferin was rendered especially pleasant by the presence of the Grand Registrar, R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon, and the W. M. of Amity, No. 32, Dunnville, Wor. Bro. T. C. Eccles. After the meeting the brethren spent a very social hour or two at Bro. Miller's Hotel.

Palmer, No. 372, Bridgeburg: This lodge I visited on Tuesday, May 30th; a regular meeting. The attendance was fair. The W. M., R. W. Bro. Hurrell, very ably assisted by his subordinates, opened and closed in all the degrees in a charming manner. Palmer is a prosperous and certainly a most progressive and up-to-date lodge. This is largely due to the energy and untiring efforts of the W. M., R. W. Bro. Hurrell, and its exceedingly efficient Secretary, Wor. Bro. John G. Watts.

Copetstone, No. 373, Welland: Visited this, the baby lodge, of my district, June 1st, 1899, the last of my official visits. There was to have been work in the sublime degree, but the candidate did not put in an appearance. The W. M., Wor. Bro. George Sutherland, and his officers gave me a very pleasing and satisfactory exhibition of their style of work. Copetstone is promising. My visit was rendered more interesting to myself in consequence of the presence of R. W. Bro. I. J. Willson, P. D. D. G. M. of this district, and the Rev. Bro. Dr. Johnston, an old and valued acquaintance. This lodge, with Merritt, No. 168, occupy new and handsome quarters. The officers and members assure me that Copetstone has the brightest prospects.

IN CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I desire to once more convey to the brethren generally my warmest appreciation of the great honor done me in July last, also of the many kindnesses extended to me.

The small service (if any) that I may have rendered to the craft has been much more than repaid by the unvarying kindness and the overwhelming hospitality with which I have been received. The many charming and highly interesting evenings that I have so much enjoyed

with my brethren during the past year will for all time furnish me with the most pleasant memories.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. A. HOSHAL, D. D. G. M.,
Niagara District No. 10.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Niagara District, No 10, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

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TORONTO WEST DISTRICT, NO. II.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in this district, I do so with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret; pleasure because all my official duties and visits throughout the district have been a series of agreeable tasks, and regret because this report must be the closing act of my duties in my official capacity, and consequently the end in some measure at least of the beginning of Masonic friendships which time alone could make life-long.

I desire to place on record my heartfelt thanks to the brethren of the district for their expression of confidence in electing me to the important position of the representative of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master in this district, and also for their personal and collective attention to the faithful performance of their Masonic duties.

My first official act was the appointment of Wor. Bro. N. R. Miller, a Past Master of Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, G. R. C., as District Secretary, to whom I feel indebted both for the prompt and efficient attention which he has given to the duties of his office, and for the zeal and attention to myself personally when accompanying me on numerous official visits.

I have endeavored to discharge all the duties which have devolved upon me with but a single eye to the advancement of the craft, and have officially visited all the lodges once at least, and oftener when required. I have paid 103 visits throughout this and other districts during the year.

I am more than pleased that I am in a position to report that there appears to be an ever increasing desire on the part of the officers and members of the different lodges to perfect themselves in Masonic knowledge, as well as to secure uniformity in the general work as laid

down by Grand Lodge. I have tried to emphasize strongly upon the brethren that while accuracy in the ritual is essential, it is altogether lost if the work is not done impressively, and with this end in view I have endeavored to confer a degree myself in as many lodges as possible, and I believe that this has had a beneficial effect throughout the district. I have visited and strongly urged (by circular letter) that the Worshipful Masters of the lodges should not fail to have the lectures and charges in the different degrees delivered to the candidates on the same night they receive the particular degree, as I believe the effect is in no small measure lost if they are not so delivered. I do not like to see the W. M. of a lodge placing himself in the position of an apologist to the candidate, which is so often done on account of the lateness of the evening, etc., etc. I am pleased to be able to report that my instructions in this respect have been carried out.

Taken as a whole, I am satisfied that the work is fully up to the standard required by Grand Lodge. It is also a source of deep gratification to myself to report that peace and harmony prevail throughout the district. In one instance only did it grieve me to see two brethren of a lodge at variance, but after a few words from myself I had the satisfaction of seeing them shake hands on the floor of the lodge. I do not know that during the whole course of my visits anything pleased me more than this; to my mind it was purely Masonic.

INSTALLATIONS

I have installed the officers of several of the lodges and assisted at the installation of several lodges outside the district.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to lodges in pursuance of the powers in me vested, and have remitted all fees payable thereon to the Grand Secretary.

TIME OF ELECTIONS.

In my official capacity experience has taught me the almost absolute necessity of having the lodges elected as nearly as possible as that of the D. D. G. M. If this could be arranged it would in my humble opinion be most beneficial to the lodges themselves, and a most

important advantage to the Deputy District Grand Master, who would then have a full year to make his official visits instead of about five months, as it is at present. I entirely agree with all that my predecessors have said on this subject, and can only add that I trust that Grand Lodge will take the matter up and bring about the desired change at no distant date.

EXPENSES OF THE D. D. G. M.

All the lodges in the district but two have done what seems to be their simple duty in tendering me my expenses.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

On the 18th day of April I held a Lodge of Instruction at the Temple building under the auspices of Wilson Lodge, No. 86, at which there was a magnificent attendance of W. M.'s, officers and members of nearly all the lodges throughout the district, and the greatest interest in this one of the most important events in any Masonic District prevailed.

The W. M. and officers of Wilson Lodge initiated a candidate in a manner seldom equalled in any lodge. There was not a single fault throughout the entire ceremony. The lecture by the J. W. and the charge by W. Bro. E. M. Carleton, I. P. M., were delivered impressively and could not fail to have the desired effect upon the candidate.

A brother was passed after an examination in which he answered the usual questions clearly, audibly and correctly by the W. M. and officers of Alpha Lodge, No. 384. This work was perfectly rendered, and I was delighted with it. The lecture given by the S. W. and the charge by W. Bro. Col. Gray, were both deserving of praise.

The W. M. and officers of Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, raised a brother to the third degree in an almost faultless manner, and too much credit cannot be bestowed upon the officers of this lodge, as their work gave me satisfactory evidence of careful and painstaking preparation. As the evening was late after the degrees had been conferred, I felt obliged to disallow any discussion of the work. Indeed, I saw no need for any, as the work in all three degrees was fully up to what I considered Grand Lodge requires.

I had previously intimated to the W. M. of Wilson Lodge that it was not at all incumbent in his lodge to assume the trouble and expense of providing refreshments for so large a gathering, but here again Wilson Lodge was equal to the occasion, the W. M. Wor. Bro., J. J. Gee, intimating to me that as his lodge had the honor of having the Lodge of Instruction held under its auspices, he had seen to it that the honor was duly appreciated. A magnificent banquet had been prepared, and every visitor was cordially invited to remain. Ample justice was done by all at the fourth degree, after songs, speeches and recitations were the order of the evening, or I should say, morning, and a most pleasant and profitable time was brought to a close by all singing Auld Lang Syne.

I had arranged with R. W. Bro. James Glanville, D.D. G. M. of the Toronto District No. 11, to hold a joint Lodge of Instruction for the benefit of the two districts, on the evening of the 23rd day of May, under the auspices of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, G. R. C., and all the arrangements made were carried out to perfection. There was a very large turnout of the brethren from the lodges in the vicinity of Aurora, for whose especial benefit the lodge was held and who by their presence testified their appreciation of our efforts. Several past and present Grand Lodge officers were also in evidence, among whom I noticed R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, D. D. G. M. of the Georgian District; Rt. Wor. Bro. T. H. Brunton, Past D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Ben Allen, P. G. S. W.; V. W. Bro. John Jones, also W. Bro. Inwood, P. M. of Orient Lodge, and Wor. Bro. N. R. Miller, District Secretary.

The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Norman, W. M. of Robertson Lodge, No. 292, and his officers perfectly. R. W. Bro. Morgan was asked to criticize the work, and he stated that it was beyond criticism, and he was right. I have never yet seen the work of the first degree so faultlessly rendered by any set of officers. There was not a single break, and every officer was to my mind perfect in his part. The second degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket, and the third degree by Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora. I shall not dwell upon the work of these two lodges, as I have no doubt that R. W. Bro. Glanville will report fully upon them, as they are in his district.

All I can state is that the work throughout was highly satisfactory and a credit to all the lodges concerned. The hospitality of the brethren of Rising Sun Lodge was put to a very severe test owing to the large number of the brethren present, but it stood the strain, and all were accommodated at the refreshment table. The entertainment at this degree was of a very high order, and it was daylight when we got up from the festive board.

SECRETARIES.

Just a word or two about this particular officer of a lodge. He is to my mind the next most important officer to the W. M., for a lodge without a good Secretary is like a ship without an anchor. I have always, when paying my official visits, endeavored to seek out the Secretary and have a little chat with him about the important duties of his office. In the matter of immediate reply to all correspondence I have been ever dwelling.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, Toronto: I visited this the oldest lodge in the district twice. First on the 13th October, 1898, when I received a royal fraternal welcome at the hands of the brethren, being introduced to the lodge by a deputation consisting of R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, P. D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. John Hall and W. Bro. N. T. Lyon, all stalwart Masons. Three candidates were initiated, the ceremony being performed by myself in one instance. I missed the genial face of Bro. Fraser, the J. W., who had died but recently. His place was filled for the evening by W. Bro. Hollingsworth, who delivered the lecture well. I was pleased to hear the charge so ably delivered by W. Bro. Dan McDonald. My second visit was made on the 13th day of April last, when there was a large turn out of the officers and members, and official visits to the lodge were made by W. M.'s, officers and members of St. John's, No. 75; Rehoboam, No. 65, and Asrlar, No. 247. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers in a highly commendable manner, and there was no room for adverse criticism. This lodge is not as strong financially as I would wish it. The principal reason for this is that there has been in the past a good deal of internal friction among the members, and black balls have not been spared. This has been arranged amicably, I am pleased

to state, and I trust all will be well for the future. A pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation to R. W. Bro. Aubry White, P. D. D. G. M., of a large group photo of the rulers of the craft in Toronto for the year 1897. The presentation was made by W. Bro. A. A. Davis, a P. M. of the lodge, in appropriate words. The R. W. Bro. accepted the gift, and replying in his usual style brimful of wit, and very generously handed over the gift to the representative of the hall trust to be hung up in some suitable place. We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment table.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54, Maple: I visited this lodge on the 8th June and received a hearty and fraternal welcome from the brethren. This is a prosperous lodge so far as good work and harmony go, but this will not do of itself, and I would like to see more good material coming in, as very few initiations have taken place for some years past. This I was assured has already been made possible in the near future. I delivered an address to the brethren which seemed to meet with their approval. A candidate was raised to the third degree by W. Bro. Shunk and his officers faultlessly, and what is more, impressively, and at the close I held a board of trial on the floor of the lodge, something few of those present had ever witnessed, and I have the satisfaction of knowing that my efforts in this direction were appreciated. W. Bro. Dr. Sisley is one of the mainsprings of this lodge and has gathered up and entered in a book form all the records of the lodge since its formation under the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 5854. This was a task of no mean proportion. W. Bro. Sisley is Secretary of the lodge and attends to his duties promptly, and his books are models of neatness. I bespeak for this lodge the measure of success it deserves. A banquet was held at the close of the lodge and a pleasant time spent.

Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 3rd November, 1898. This was Past Master's night and I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Glanville, D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Miller, District Secretary. R. W. Bro. Gibbs occupied the chair and assisted by Past Masters such as V. W. Bro. Gallow, W. Bro. Graham and others, initiated a candidate in a manner unsurpassed by anything I have hitherto seen in the work of Past Masters of any lodge. I was particularly

struck with the large attendance of the brethren of the lodge itself. This means that it is a prosperous lodge. I visited this lodge again on the 2nd day of March, when W. Bro. Hoskins, assisted by his officers, initiated a candidate in a manner which reflected great credit on them. W. Bro. Hoskins is an enthusiastic and painstaking W. M., and Rehoboam Lodge must flourish under his rule. The Secretary keeps his books well and correctly. We spent an enjoyable time at the refreshment table.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto: I visited this splendid lodge on the 18th day of October, being the occasion of the celebration of its 41st anniversary, and the chairs were filled by P. M.'s. The evening was marked by the presence of that veteran Mason, M. Wor. Bro. Kivas Tully, the first W. M. of the lodge. The M. W. the Grand Master was also present and delivered a most instructive address to the brethren. I noticed four ministers of the Gospel present who added dignity and grace to the meeting. The work of the first degree was exemplified with V. W. Bro. Coady, our distinguished City Treasurer, in the chair, in a highly commendable manner. Wilson is a sterling lodge and does good work. I visited this lodge again on the 18th day of April when a Lodge of Instruction was held, which I have described fully above.

True Blue Lodge, No. 98, Bolton: I visited this lodge on the 21st day of April and was hospitably received by the brethren, who are all whole-souled Masons. This is one of the best and most prosperous rural lodges I have had the pleasure of visiting. I had anticipated a board of trial before allowed to enter the lodge, but the presence unexpectedly of Bro. Burton, a member of the lodge, and a frequent visitor to my mother lodge, Ashlar, No. 247, settled the matter. The brethren own their lodge free from debt, and it is both artistic and comfortable. A brother was raised to the sublime degree by the W. M. and his officers intellectually and impressively. The Secretary, W. Bro. Roberts, is a thoroughly efficient and painstaking officer, and keeps his books well. No. 98 is all right.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg: I visited this lodge on the 19th day of June and by the kindness of W. Bro. Radcliffe, of Rising Sun Lodge, we had pre-arranged that he should drive me over. It is some four-

teen miles drive from Aurora, but when one is received by the brethren of a lodge like those who make up this one he feels amply repaid. The election of officers took place and all was harmony, the officers being promoted in nearly every case. I am sorry that this lodge does not progress numerically, as the foundation is all right, but the material for the superstructure does not seem to be in sight.

York Lodge, No. 156, Eglinton: I visited this lodge several times because in reading over the report of my predecessor I noticed that he stated that the lodge was in a very weak condition. This must be a mistake on his part, as I am convinced that from what I saw of the members they are good Masons, do their work well and pay their debts. I made my first visit on the 21st October last, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Glanville, D. D. G. M., of the Toronto East District, No. 11a. The night was a very stormy one, but the brethren had already been advised of the chief attraction of the evening, a presentation of a handsome diamond ring to V. W. Bro. C. C. Norris, one of the hardest workers in the lodge. The presentation was made and very feelingly replied to by the recipient. It was intended that a candidate should be initiated, but he failed to put in an appearance, which I regretted very much, as I was anxious to see the work exemplified in my official capacity, well knowing that it would be up to the mark. I was glad, however, to hear three applications read out. This lodge is composed of thorough, whole-souled Masons and backed up by veterans in Masonry like R. W. John Fisher, P. D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. Norris and W. Bro. R. W. Hull, cannot fail to make itself felt as a power for good in the craft. I visited this lodge subsequently and have seen all three degrees exemplified to my entire satisfaction. The books are well kept by an efficient secretary, Bro. Armstrong.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton: I visited this lodge on the 21st day of March and was met at the station by V. W. Bro. Morton, the Secretary of the lodge, who conducted me to the hotel, and after supper I was called on by a deputation and conducted to the lodge room, which is a remarkably cosy and comfortable, one well-appointed in every particular. Here I was met with a loyal and fraternal greeting at the hands of W. Bro. McFadden, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing

for some 26 years. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a brother who had lately been raised to the sublime degree was examined as to his proficiency in that degree as laid down in the work. I was pleased with this, as it was the first occasion upon which I had seen this done. I felt that it was an example for other lodges to follow. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree and a candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers in a manner which rendered adverse criticism on my part impossible. The J. W. delivered the lecture in a highly creditable manner, and that old Masonic standby, V. W. Bro. Morton, delivered the charge in a manner which could not fail to impress the candidate. Altogether I was very much pleased with this visit, particularly with the J. D., who did his work perfectly in every detail. I bespeak for Ionic that measure of prosperity it so richly deserves. The lodge is well attended at all its meetings by its Past Masters, to whom in no small measure is due the success of the lodge. We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment board.

Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 27th September last and was tendered a splendid reception on this my first official visit as D. D. G. M. of the district. Ashlar being my mother lodge, I felt it would be a small compliment to the lodge and a tribute of my esteem for the brethren if I paid my first official visit to them. I found that the lodge had anticipated my visit and had arranged to give me a warm welcome, having sent out special invitations to the W. M.'s and Wardens of all the city lodges and to past and present Grand Lodge officers. Upon being announced I was introduced in the lodge by those stalwart Masons, R. W. Bro. Ben Allen and R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, and received at the hands of the W. M., W. Bro. O'Hara, a truly Masonic welcome and congratulations of the brethren upon being elected D. D. G. M. of this district. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and his officers, the work being performed in Ashlar's proverbial good style, although the Inner Guard was unavoidably absent, the J. S. had been removed to St. John's, New Brunswick, and the J. W. had not returned from his visit to Europe. A sumptuous banquet was served in the refreshment room and an excellent programme of songs and *speeches* brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

I appreciate the honor which my brethren did me on this occasion. This is without doubt one of the very best lodges in the district socially, financially and as a working lodge. There appears to be a species of electric current permeating the members of this lodge which the visitor feels but cannot describe, and it is from this fact, together with the unanimity and concord which prevail that anything the lodge undertakes makes success a foregone conclusion. I visited this lodge again on the 27th day of December, but could only remain to see a portion of the installation ceremony, as I had promised to instal the officers of Alpha Lodge. I paid another visit on the 28th of February on the occasion of the lodge's celebration of its twenty-eighth birthday. I occupied the chair and had the distinguished honor of initiating a son of the founder of Ashlar Lodge (I refer to the late R. W. Bro. T. F. Blackwood). It was also Past Masters' night, and all the chairs were filled by P. M.'s. The work was so divided up that from the veteran Wor. Bro. J. S. Donaldson, the oldest living P. M. down to the youngest P. M., took part. It was a gala night for Ashlar Lodge, and will long be remembered by the members and visitors. The M. W. the Grand Master graced the proceedings with his presence and received a loyal and fraternal welcome. I visited this lodge again on the 28th March, as I had not had an opportunity of seeing any work done by W. Bro. Murphy and his officers. There were five city lodges paying official visits, viz., Rehoboam, Occident, Wilson, Harmony and St. Andrew's. Three candidates were passed to the second degree by the W. M., and the work was thorough and correct. The work of the S. D., Bro. Thomas Reid, was excellent and performed with military precision, and the lecture delivered by the S. W., Bro. A. F. Webster, was all that could be desired. The books of the Secretary, Bro. A. B. Aylesworth, are models of neatness, and are correctly kept.

Patterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill: I visited this lodge on the 20th April last and was well received by the brethren. I do not know that I could do better to show the condition of this lodge than by copying a report I heard read at this meeting by the chairman of a committee which had been previously struck for the purpose of enquiring into the condition of this lodge. It read as follows: "We, your committee appointed to

report on the standing of Patterson Lodge, financially and otherwise, beg leave to report as follows: We find in looking over the accounts for some years past that the lodge was in good standing as regards members and finances up to 1890, there being a good balance in the hands of the Treasurer at that time, and the members then numbered 42. Since that time up to about one and a half years ago the number seemed to be gradually depreciating, from what cause we are hardly able to say, without it was some disagreement between some members who lived in Toronto and local brethren. We understand that these brethren from Toronto were too free with the finances of the lodge to suit the brethren here and a number withdrew, and the lodge became financially embarrassed and money had to be borrowed to meet accounts then due. Then, to make matters worse, they wished to have our lodge moved to Toronto, and a meeting was called purposely to consider that matter. The D. D. G. M. at that time was apparently in favor of its removal. The local brethren were very much annoyed at this and a number of them left the lodge, but the more conservative desired to retain Patterson Lodge, and turned out to this meeting in fairly good numbers, and being in the majority, it was decided to leave the lodge as it was. After this meeting Toronto brethren did not attend, and the local brethren began to take more interest. From this time forward there has been a gradual improvement. The old debts have all been paid off and the money borrowed returned with interest. Last year we initiated five new members, and there is one to ballot for to-night and one or two others who have asked for blank propositions which may be handed in at any time. The number of brethren on the list is 27 and two twelve months in arrears. Success for the future is very encouraging." With W. Bro. Langstaff at the helm to guide this lodge through what it has passed I see no reason why it should not succeed. The brethren can do good work and are most enthusiastic masons.

Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King: I visited this lodge on the 22nd May and was met at the station by the W. M. Wor. Bro. Norman and driven to the hotel, which is some distance, where I had the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Crossley. Upon my entrance into the lodge I was warmly welcomed by the W. M. and brethren. I deliv-

ered a short address touching upon the general work of a lodge and behaviour therein, which appeared to be much appreciated by those present. A candidate was initiated, and the work was perfection itself. I had no misgivings about the next night when I saw this work, as I had picked out Robertson Lodge to work the first degree at the joint Lodge of Instruction which was to be held at Aurora on the 23rd of May. Wor. Bro. Norman is a thorough and impressive Ritualist, and the J. W. delivered the lecture well. Wor. Bro. Crossley delivered the charge to the candidate, and I feel sure it will have a lasting impression upon the candidate. A brother was raised to the third degree by the W. M., assisted by Wor. Bro. Crossley, and the W. M. delivered the charge clearly and forcibly. This lodge is in a highly prosperous condition and new material is not lacking. The Secretary, Bro. Patterson, keeps the books well and correctly.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston: I visited this lodge twice, first on the 21st day of December, when I installed their officers, and secondly on the 19th of April, when I saw the W. M. and officers do good work. The work of the first degree was exemplified to my entire satisfaction by every officer. Wor. Bro. Elliott is the right man in the right place, and infuses a large amount of genuine Masonic enthusiasm into his officers and members. This lodge ought to prosper. The Secretary keeps his books well.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge: I visited this lodge on the 19th day of May and was indeed pleased to enter the portals of a lodge called after the founder of my mother lodge, Ashlar. The attendance was small, only about thirteen being present, but what was lacking in numbers was certainly made up in enthusiasm and good work. The third degree was exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Frank Smith, and his officers, and the charge was perfectly rendered by the W. M. The opening and closing in the three degrees was perfect. The lodge room and its approaches are not at all desirable, but I am pleased to say that at this meeting the lodge had under discussion the advisability of purchasing a lot and erecting a suitable hall, and subscriptions for this purpose were volunteered. If this scheme is carried out I am satisfied it will give a fresh impetus to this lodge, and new members will come in.

No candidates have been received for the past two years, but I am told prospects are brighter for the future. Wor Bro. Dr. McLean has Masonry in general and this lodge in particular in his heart, and renders valuable assistance to the lodge. The books are kept well.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto: I visited this lodge several times. First on the 23rd of September, upon the invitation of the W. M., officers and members, when a magnificent reception was tendered to the M. Wor. the Grand Master, and a beautiful address in album form was presented to him containing words of congratulation to himself and expressing the high honor which had been conferred upon Zetland Lodge (his mother lodge) by having him unanimously chosen by the Grand Lodge to be the chief head and ruler of the craft for the Province of Ontario. The M. Wor. the Grand Master replied in very feeling terms and thanked the Lodge for their kind words and royal reception. One candidate was initiated and the work was done almost without a fault. The meeting was graced by the presence of two Past Grand Masters, M. Wor. Bros. Hugh Hurray, of Hamilton, and Wm. Gibson, of Beamsville. After the lodge was closed a magnificent banquet was served in the upper room, when speeches and songs went merrily until the "wee sma' hours," and brought to a close by the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

I visited Zetland Lodge again on the 24th February, and was well received by about 150 brethren and visitors of the lodge. There were three official visits made to the lodge, viz.: W. Bro. H. T. Smith, W. M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16; W. Bro. D. Hoskins, W. M. of Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65; and W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, W. M. of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, accompanied by their respective officers and members. The M. W. the Grand Master was also present, not in his capacity of G. M., but as Treasurer of the lodge. I delivered a short address to the brethren urging several points which I thought would be of benefit to the craft in general, which was well received. The W. M. raised a candidate to the sublime degree. The other officers of the lodge acquitted themselves creditably, especially the S. D., Bro. Cockburn, who was a model officer. We spent a very pleasant hour at the fourth degree. I also visited this lodge on the occasion of their Past Grand Master's *night*, when all the living Present and Past Grand Mas-

ters, with the exception of M. Wor. Bro. Robertson, of Collingwood, who was absent through illness, were present. This meeting was one to be remembered in the minds of all those who attended. The work of the first degree was exemplified perfectly, and the charge and lecture were delivered by those veterans in the craft in a manner which called forth the admiration of all present. A banquet was held, which every brother must have enjoyed.

Occident Lodge, No. 346, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 19th October, in company with R. Wor. Bro. James Glanville, D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District East, No. 11a, and we were received by the Wor. Master, officers and members of the lodge right loyally. Having visited this lodge several times during terms in which I held office in Ashlar Lodge, I was struck with the material and numerical increase in strength of the lodge. Differences which had existed in the past seem to have been entirely obliterated, and all things appear to be working in harmony and concord. The first degree was exemplified in a manner almost above criticism, every officer performing his particular part of the ceremony with credit and ability. I cannot speak too highly of the W. M. Wor. Bro. E. J. B. Duncan, who presides over the affairs of this lodge with a dignity and at the same time an easy grace and pleasant manner which in itself must go a long way to secure that harmony which is essential to the success of any lodge. I was more than pleased to hear and see the able and impressive manner in which the J. W. delivered the lecture and Wor. Bro. F. W. Barber rendered the charge to the newly initiated brother. Three new applications were received. The work in the fourth degree could not have been surpassed for genuine hospitality. I bespeak for this lodge that measure of prosperity which the fidelity and zeal of its officers and members deserves. I also saw W. Bro. Lake and his officers perform their work to perfection.

River Park Lodge, No. 356, Streetsville: I visited this lodge on the 19th of June and was well received by the brethren. A brother was passed to the second degree and another raised to the third degree by the W.M. and officers in a highly creditable manner. This lodge is holding its own in the district, and should even be more prosperous with its surrounding advantages. W.

Bro. Couse is energetic and has lent his inspiration to his officers. W. Bro. Taylor is a model Secretary and keeps his books well. We spent a pleasant time at the fourth degree.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills: I visited this lodge on 18th May and was not disappointed at the loyalty of my reception, R. W. Bro. Jas. Glanville accompanying me on this occasion. I found the brethren in possession of a well-appointed building, which is owned and paid for by the lodge. A candidate was initiated by the W. M. and officers in a manner which justified me in stating that outside the city of Toronto I had never seen the work performed in a better manner. There were seven P. M.'s present who take a deep interest in the work of the lodge. The W. M., Bro. F. F. Reeves, is a correct and impressive ritualist, and the charge, as delivered by P. M. Wor. Bro. Gray, was simply perfection. I was sorry that the J. W., Bro. Dr. Bull, was called away to attend a patient, and I had not the pleasure of hearing him deliver his lecture, as I had been informed that no brother in the district could excel him in this particular. The Secretary is painstaking and correct, and the books are well kept. Plenty of good material is available in the neighborhood to make this good lodge better and stronger. A pleasant hour was spent at the fourth degree.

Harmony Lodge, No. 438, Toronto, is the youngest baby in the cradle of Masonry in this district. Ever since its infancy it has been well and carefully looked after by craftsmen whose names rank high in the honor roll of Grand Lodge. Therefore, it was not surprising that on the occasion of my official visit to Harmony Lodge at its regular communication on Monday, March 27th, I found it healthy and flourishing. The large attendance of members were especially gratifying to me. Two candidates were initiated in the mysteries of Masonry, and the first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. J. C. Gardner and his officers in a correct and impressive manner, the work throughout the ceremony betokening earnest and conscientious adherence to, and compliance with, the demands of the ritual. The books of the lodge are neatly and correctly kept by the Secretary. The future seems particularly bright for the welfare and prosperity of Harmony Lodge.

I visited Stanley Lodge, No. 426, and witnessed the

W. M. and officers exemplify the first degree in a highly efficient and creditable manner. Indeed, I have seldom seen the work so well executed in every detail. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Perfect, is not only so in name, but also in deed as far as Masonic work is concerned, he being a very impressive ritualistic worker and possesses a clear voice which stands him in good stead. The S. W., Bro. Anderson, fills the chair in the west admirably and will make a good W. M. The lecture was delivered by the J. W. to my entire satisfaction, and the floor work of the J. D. deserves special commendation. I delivered a short address to the brethren on several points, for which the W. M. in kindly words thanked me. I answered many questions which were put to me by the brethren, who seemed anxious for "more light." We spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment table. The books of the Secretary, Bro. Royce, are well and neatly kept, and the dues are well paid.

IN CONCLUSION

I desire to thank each and every one of the brethren throughout the district for turning out in such goodly numbers to receive me on my official visits, thereby paying the respect due to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master through me as his representative in this district. I trust that my successor in office will be blessed with a most successful year, and that in his visits throughout the district he will find traces of good work which I have endeavored ever so humbly to perform.

Fraternally submitted,

CURRAN MORRISON, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto West District, No. 11.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto West District, No. 11, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's conf'r'd	Admissions.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspenditions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.		Average attendance of member.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arreages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
			Increased during year.	Decreased during year.							Total.	Regular.										
93	King St. Ma.	Toronto	192	17	13	15	2	7	4	1	1	1	1	5	20	\$169 65	June, '99	Good	Bright	Yes	Yes	
94	Vaughan	Maple	34	1	6	11	1	6	1	1	1	1	8	5	10	39 00	Dec. '97	Good	Fair	Yes	\$1600 00	
95	Rehoboth	Toronto	258	6	11	11	7	1	3	1	1	1	150	8	27	607 43	Dec. '97	Sound	Good	Yes		
96	Wilson	Toronto	172	23	3	19	21	13	4	9	1	1	120	25	281 65	Dec. '97	Sound	Encour'g	Yes			
97	True Blue.	Boston	43	5	5	3	2	1	3	9	9	9	6	5	75	00	June, '94	Good	Good	Yes		
98	Union	Schomberg	90	9	5	3	2	1	3	9	9	9	6	25	00	June, '94	Fair	Medium	Yes			
118	York	Eglinton	90	5	11	4	3	3	1	4	5	3	11	50	18	230 00	Jan. '99	Fair	Good	Yes		
158	Lonie	Brampton	71	1	1	1	1	1	3	9	9	9	8	34	00	June, '98	Fair	Good	Yes			
323	Ashlar	Toronto	166	14	10	11	9	13	2	1	4	3	10	85	35	364 95	Dec. '97	First class	Excellent	Yes		
327	Patterson	Thornhill	31	5	2	4	3	1	3	9	9	9	9	10	00	June, '94	All right	Very good	Yes			
325	Robertson	King	41	2	8	9	8	1	1	4	3	3	13	00	Jan. '99	Good	Good	Fair	Yes			
326	Humber	Weston	42	4	3	5	4	1	1	4	3	3	13	00	Jan. '99	Out of dt.	Good	Good	Yes			
328	Blackwood	Woodbridge	33	1	3	3	3	1	1	3	9	9	10	8	32	340 00	Dec. '97	A 1	Satisfy	Yes	None	
329	Zelland	Toronto	234	24	34	23	7	6	1	1	1	1	150	50	31	633 80	June, '94	Good	Good	Yes	Cov'd	
336	Occident	Toronto	152	9	4	11	11	21	7	1	1	1	98	00	22	63	00	June, '94	Fair	Fair	Yes	1000 00
356	River Park	Streetsville	32	4	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	98	20	00	00	Feb. '99	\$134 30	Good	Good	Yes	1000 00
369	Mimico	Lambton Mills	59	9	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	13	00	14	171 00	Dec. '97	Good	Bright	Yes	1000 00	
384	Ashlar	Toronto	190	23	16	17	15	9	2	2	1	1	13	98	47	353 30	Dec. '97	Good	Good	Yes	1000 00	
406	Stanley	Toronto	132	14	11	10	10	3	1	1	1	1	119	28	00	178 00	Dec. '97	Good	Excellent	Yes	1000 00	
438	Harmony	Toronto	123	16	7	13	13	13	3	1	1	1	111	00	90	213 00	Dec. '97	Very good	Excellent	Yes	Ful. In.	

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, NO. 11A.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report upon the condition of Masonry in the Toronto East District No. 11A during the past year.

At the meeting of the Toronto District held in the city of Brantford on Thursday, July 22nd, 1897, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz. : "That a committee be appointed by this district to inquire into and consider the advisability of having a division of this district, and if advisable to take such steps as will lead to such a division being effected."

The committee appointed under the resolution, after careful consideration, and having obtained the consensus of opinion of the forty lodges in the district, unanimously decided that in the best interests of the craft a division of this district should be effected, and at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the city of Toronto on the 20th day of July, 1898, it was resolved that the Toronto District, No. 11, be divided.

The lodges composing the Toronto East District, No. 11A, are those of the eastern portion of former Toronto District, No. 11, outside of the city of Toronto. Yonge street being the dividing line between the two districts, the lodges in the city of Toronto were apportioned to the Toronto East and Toronto West districts, according to the seniority of their respective warrants.

This district as at present constituted is compact and does not entail too great a task upon the D. D. G. M. in visiting the several lodges, composed as it is of 20 lodges, it affords opportunity of visiting them without great inconvenience, and I have no doubt but that my successors will consider that the effected division was in the best interest of the fraternity.

Having been honored by my brethren at the last An-

nual Communication of Grand Lodge by my election as the first D. D. G. M. of the new district, I desire to express my sincere thanks to the brethren throughout the district for the many graceful courtesies extended to me, and the uniform and kindly services rendered me whilst paying my official visits.

I was enabled to visit every lodge in the district at least once, the majority of them twice, and in many instances I took advantage of the privilege accorded me and visited some of the lodges several times, and on each occasion I was received with the utmost cordiality. Fortunately every engagement made with any of the lodges I was privileged to fulfil, and all of the lodges were prepared to receive a visit from me at any time, and as I visited many of the lodges without previous notification, feeling assured that all of them were properly officered, I take great pleasure in stating that the standard of excellence of work in this district is very high.

The brethren of this district adhere to that accuracy and uniformity of work that is most essential, and in my visits I endeavored to instruct as far as my ability would permit where instruction was deemed necessary. I directed attention to inaccuracies, or where changes would be found acceptable, and complimented where it was justly deserved.

With the exception of two of the lodges in the city of Toronto, peace and harmony prevails in this district, and I am sure that were a feeling of a more brotherly nature exhibited in those lodges that their difficulties would soon be overcome.

The exchange of visits between lodges, both in this district and from and to lodges in the adjoining districts, is exceptionally gratifying and cannot but be productive of much good being accomplished. It is pleasing to see the Past Masters accompanying their Masters on these visits in such numbers.

Of the twenty lodges in this district fifteen are in excellent condition. Two show decided improvement, two require the most careful attention on the part of those who are entrusted with the administration of their affairs, and one requires radical changes in all its methods of conducting business and careful nursing on the part of its members and my successor to enable it to continue its existence.

The outlook is exceptionally promising. All the

lodges with the exception of three have increased their membership; one remains stationary; two show loss in membership, caused by S. N. P. D.; seventeen of the lodges show a gain of one hundred and thirty-six; two lodges have a decrease of twenty-two, so that the net gain is one hundred and fourteen, which would be extremely gratifying were the decreases not largely caused by S. N. P. D.

In this district too large a proportion of those initiated unfortunately demit from the lodges for reasons at some times unexplainable, and the S. N. P. D. list is altogether too large. For the purpose of comparison, I find that during the last ten years and this year the record of this district is as follows, viz.:

	1889-98	1899
Initiations.	1225	182
Joinings.	394	39
Restorations.	127	18
Withdrawals.	479	52
Deaths.	198	25
Suspensions on non-payment dues.	568	46
Suspensions, other causes.	10	2
Gain in membership.	491	114
Membership in 1898 and 1899.	1963	1899.2077

I am sure that all will agree that our best efforts should be devoted to stopping the enormous drain upon our membership caused by withdrawals and the suspensions for non-payment of dues. I have endeavored to the utmost of my ability to impress this upon the members of the several lodges of this district, and I trust that my efforts will bring forth good result. The number of restorations, eighteen, is not as large as I would desire, considering the effort that has been put forth in all the lodges, and I trust that material improvement may be exhibited in this direction during the coming year. I am pleased at the number of joinings, thirty-nine, and trust that the good work in this direction will be continued.

It is with gratification that I am enabled to report that the lodges in this district have expended the large sum of \$886.27 in benevolence during the past year, \$687.77 of this being dispensed by six of the lodges. I trust that their good example may be emulated.

One of my first duties after my election was to select

from among the brethren of the district a Secretary and a Chaplain. As my District Secretary I was fortunate in selecting W. Bro. A. L. Malone, P. M. Georgina Lodge, No. 343, who has performed all the duties which devolved upon him with fidelity and dispatch, and it would ill become me were I not grateful to him for the many services accorded me and his kind and considerate co-operation and support. As District Chaplain, it was the pleasure of the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison and myself to appoint Bro. the Rev. Morgan Wood, of Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto.

Immediately upon entering the duties of my office I issued the following circular to each lodge in the district, viz.:

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, A. F. & A. M.

Toronto East District, No. 11A.

Office of the District Deputy Grand Master,
Toronto, Sept. 16th, 1898.

Dear Sir and Worshipful Brother:

It is but fitting that I should express my appreciation of the honor that has been conferred upon me by the Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the lodges in this district by electing me to the responsible position of District Deputy Grand Master, and I trust that I shall be enabled to discharge the duties that devolve upon me with fidelity and zeal.

I have appointed W. Bro. A. L. Malone, of Georgina Lodge, No. 343, as District Secretary, and communications for me, addressed to his care, will secure prompt attention.

As the majority of the lodges in this district elect their officers in November, it is my intention to hold the first of a series of Lodges of Instruction during that month, in order that the brethren who have been honored by their fellows may have the opportunity of securing much useful information, enabling them to maintain the standard of efficiency that is required in the exemplification of the several degrees.

It is my intention to visit the several lodges of this district as often as I shall deem necessary, and I shall be pleased to have the Worshipful Master of each lodge exemplify one or more of the degrees on the occasion of my visit; if time and circumstance will permit, I desire to see all of the degrees presented during the series of visits I shall pay each lodge.

I also desire to direct special attention to the fact that it is requisite that all those elected to the office of Master must be expert craftsmen, well skilled in the work, and presented to a Board of Installed Masters for examination prior to installation. The next election for the office of Master will be held in November and December, and in the interest of the fraternity it is necessary that the regulations laid down in the Constitution

should be carried out. All those elected to the office of Master will have to undergo examination so that I may know that they possess the necessary qualifications. The office of Master is one of great honor as well as responsibility, and should only be conferred upon those qualified to maintain the highest standard of efficiency. All newly-elected Masters must be able to open and close, and exemplify the work in the three degrees.

It is expected that the Secretary of each lodge in this district shall notify me of each lodge meeting and the work to be done, as my visits, in some instances, will be governed by the work that is to be presented. It is also necessary that the Secretary shall make the returns to Grand Lodge twice in each year. This must be done as expeditiously as possible, whether the lodge can at the time forward the amount due or not.

I would also request that each lodge in this district give the matter of collection of dues immediate attention, as where the same are properly collected many valued members are retained, while on the other hand, by neglect of duty in this respect, many members permit their dues to accumulate until the amount owing becomes too burdensome to be met, and suspension for non-payment of dues necessarily follows. This action should only be taken after mature deliberation, as where suspensions occur, restorations are very few in number, and many valued adherents are lost to us. It is therefore our duty to do all we possibly can to retain those at present on our roll.

I would ask that special effort be made in every lodge to induce non-affiliate Masons of good character to join the lodge, and I have no doubt but that the best interests of the craft will be conserved if each lodge would appoint a committee whose special duty it would be to see every desirable demitted member of the lodge and endeavor to induce him to affiliate. In cases where the brethren have been suspended for non-payment of dues, I feel assured that in many cases changed circumstances will permit them to again take up their membership if a request to that effect were only presented to them. If the brother be in straitened circumstances, and unable to pay the arrears, I would ask you to consider the advisability of remitting the debt instead of debarring a worthy brother from the privilege of his lodge on account of poverty. I would ask my brethren to give these matters their kindest and best consideration.

I regret that it is necessary in some instances to direct the attention of lodges in this district to the necessity of having their furniture or buildings fully covered by insurance. I look for immediate compliance with the requirements in this respect, and would direct the attention of each lodge to the advisability of having an inventory of their belongings kept in some place other than the lodge room, so that if disaster should occur, the lodge will be in a position to fully determine its loss.

I trust it is unnecessary for me to warn members of each lodge against electioneering for office.

To all my brethren of this district I offer the assurance of my kindest and most fraternal regard, and express the sincere hope that, as in the past, friendship and brotherly love may continue to be the characteristics of the brethren of this district during my term of office.

Relying upon the hearty co-operation of each and every member of this district, I trust that the coming year will redound to the credit of each one upon whom duties will fall, and that those duties will be performed to the best of our ability and capacity.

Cordially and fraternally, yours very truly,

JAMES GLANVILLE, D. D. G. M.

And I believe all of the lodges have endeavored to comply with the requests therein contained.

I have not issued any dispensations during the past year, and where requests have been made to me they were for purposes that it would be solely within the province of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master to exercise his authority to accede to, and in each instance I forwarded the requests to the Grand Secretary.

In pursuance of a dispensation granted bearing date of the 22nd of June, I healed Josiah Thomas Couch in Orient Lodge, No. 339, on the 4th of July, 1899, and issued a certificate to him to that effect.

In this district I have been notified of the deaths of the following brethren: 16, Bro. F. Pells; Bro. F. Ody, Bro. C. Nicol, Bro. Hugh Miller; 25, R. W. Francis Richardson, Bro. S. W. Farrell; 75, Bro. Thomas Sanderson; 129, Bro. G. W. Graham; 218, Bro. George Doughty, Bro. Wm. Lunness, Bro. C. Waterman; 339, Bro. J. B. A. Daly, Bro. J. H. Ayre, Bro. J. Chisholm, Bro. H. Jones; 343, Bro. H. Tiffin; 367, Bro. John Gillett, Bro. P. Kinnear, Bro. D. C. Anderson; 410, Bro. J. W. Ellis; 430, Bro. J. M. Torrence.

The following amendments to by-laws were submitted to me by Lodge 16, to elect all officers; Lodge 25, authorizing treasurer to pay rent; Lodge 136, to change night of meeting; which I duly forwarded to and received confirmed from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

In the lodges there have been held 300 meetings, 225 regular and 75 emergency, and the attendance has in many cases shown a marked increase.

In too many instances are the proceedings of a lodge continued until too late an hour, and many of our more aged brethren submit this as a reason why they are not

more frequent in their attendance at the meetings of their lodge. They do not desire to leave the lodge before it is closed, but the lateness of the hour at which this is done; in many instances is too great a tax upon their vitality.

The lateness of the hour at which in some of the lodges degrees are conferred prevent many of our members from remaining to witness the exemplification, and in some of the lodges many of our brethren have not witnessed the second or third degrees for years because they have been conferred either at such a late hour or at emergent meetings, when the brethren have not had opportunity to be present. I submit for the consideration of some of the lodges in the city of Toronto the question of the advisability of conferring the second and third degree at one or two of their regular meetings at a seasonable hour during each year.

The practice which obtains in some of the lodges in the city of Toronto of "calling off" for refreshments and continuing exemplifying degrees to a beggarly array of empty benches bears the impress as though the festive board was taking precedence of the work of the lodge. I believe such actions should be deprecated, and but scant courtesy is shown to the officers of a lodge when degrees are to be conferred for the brethren to think that a convenient time to visit the ante-room. I am sure the attention of the brethren only required to be directed to these matters to result in a change being made for the better.

Many of the lodges in this district elect their officers in November and instal in December, so that a change of officers is effected when the lodges as a rule should be doing their best work. If the terms of the officers were concurrent with the meetings of Grand Lodge, the lodges then would elect their officers in May and instal in June, and much good would be accomplished, as in general the lodges do not meet during the heated term, the officers installed in June should be fully competent to undertake the duties of their respective offices by the time the lodges resume labor in September, and a change in officers, which generally retards the work, would not be necessary just at the time lodges have the most work on hand.

The majority of the lodges of the city of Toronto electing their officers in November, I deemed the latter part

of that month a fitting opportunity for holding a Lodge of Instruction, therefore, on the 29th of that month, I convened a Lodge of Instruction, under the auspices of St. John's Lodge, No. 65, in the Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto; W. Bros. J. B. Boyce and officers of St. John's Lodge, No. 65, exemplifying the first degree; W. Bro. J. J. Main and officers of St. George Lodge, No. 367, the second, and W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne and officers of Zeta Lodge, No. 410, the third.

A second Lodge of Instruction, designed to be of benefit to the northerly portions of the Toronto West and East Districts, was held through the kindness of The Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, in their fine lodge room, in the town of Aurora, and was under the joint supervision of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison and myself. At this Lodge of Instruction, held on the 23rd May, 1899, the work was divided between the lodges of the two districts, W. Bro. Norman and officers of Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King, of the Toronto West District, exemplifying the first degree; W. Bro. A. Webb, M. D., and officers of Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket, the second, and W. Bro. McClosky and officers of The Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora, the third, the two last named lodges of the Toronto East District.

The work at both of these Lodges of Instruction was of the highest standard, and I have no doubt but that much good will result. I am deeply grateful to the officers of the several lodges for their kindness in so willingly responding to my request and so fittingly presenting the degrees.

I had the pleasure of attending a Lodge of Instruction held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, in the Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto, on which occasion I was accompanied by the officers of most of the lodges of my district, and take pleasure in testifying to the high standard of work that is being maintained in that district.

At the three mentioned Lodges of Instruction the D. D. G. M.'s of the Georgian and both of the Toronto Districts were present.

I regretted that illness prevented my attendance at the Lodge of Instruction held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Georgian District; R. W.

Bro. J. C. Morgan, in the town of Barrie, on the 16th of March, and a prearranged visit to one of the Lodges of this district, deprived me of the pleasure of being in Port Hope on the 21st of March, when a Lodge of Instruction was held under the direction of the R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Ontario District, R. W. Bro. James Evans.

VISITS.

16, St. Andrew's Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: At my first visit to this, the oldest lodge in the district, and my mother lodge, on the 13th Sept., 1898, the W. M. and J. W. were absent, and as this was the first meeting of the lodge after the summer vacation no work was done, but the brethren were instructed by an entertaining address by R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M., on boards of trial, which was presented in his usual highly creditable manner by the distinguished brother. On my second visit on October 11th, 1898, I was pleased to see the W. M., W. Bro. F. M. Bell-Smith, occupying his position. I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree, which was ably conferred by W. Bro. A. R. McDonald, P. M., assisted by W. Bro. John Pearson, P. M., and the third degree exemplified in a fitting manner by W. Bro. J. E. Hansford, P. M., assisted by the W. M., W. Bro. Bell-Smith, and W. Bro. B. N. Davis, P. M. The candidate for the third degree on that occasion being His Worship the Mayor of the city of Toronto, Bro. John Shaw. The examination of the candidate was well conducted, and I am pleased to report that the work of all the officers was of an exceedingly high standard. To this as the oldest lodge in the city of Toronto fell the honor of holding a meeting, at which the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, was greeted by his brethren of the city of Toronto lodges, and when on the night of the 2nd of November we were honored by the presence of the Grand Master, the beautiful hall was crowded to excess by the brethren of all the lodges. I had the pleasure of seeing the W. M. confer the first degree upon the son of one of the esteemed P.M.'s of this lodge at their meeting on Nov. 8th, 1898, at which meeting this lodge amended their by-law relating to election of officers, so that now they elect all their officers. I was pleased to note the very large amount which this lodge devoted to benevolent purposes at their December

meeting. At their meeting on Jan. 10, 1899, it was my pleasure to witness the first degree as presented by the newly-installed officers. The W. M., W. Bro. H. T. Smith, performed his work with honor to himself and credit to his lodge, and was ably supported by all his officers. On this occasion the W. M.'s of the majority of the city lodges were present, also the W. M. of Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket, and his officers. This meeting having been chosen as the one at which the committee appointed at the meeting of the "Old" Toronto District carried into effect the duties then relegated to them, and through the Chairman, W. Bro. A. L. Malone, District Secretary, presented my predecessor, R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, with a suit of regalia as a slight evidence of appreciation, on behalf of the lodges of the district over which he so ably presided. At their meeting on the 14th March, 1899, I witnessed the second degree, which on that occasion was not up to the standard required, and I trust the officers of this year will give evidence of application to their duties to the office which honors them. This lodge was honored at their meeting of 9th May by a visit from the officers and members of Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville, and I must congratulate W. Bro. D. B. Simpson and his officers for rendering the first degree so acceptably. St. Andrew's on this occasion was assisted in honoring her visitors by the presence of the W. M. of nearly all the city lodges and a distinguished array of talented brethren. This lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an efficient Secretary as W. Bro. J. T. Slater, P. M., and all its affairs are in an exceedingly flourishing condition.

23, Richmond Lodge, Masonic Hall, Richmond Hill: Through the kindness of the W. M. and officers of Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto, I had the pleasure of journeying in their genial company on the evening of my visit to this lodge, 21st April, 1899, on which occasion they were accompanied by the majority of the W. M.'s of the city lodges. I was greeted with a very large attendance of the brethren, over 100 being present, and the first degree was exemplified by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Coombs, was satisfactory in every particular. I desire to congratulate the W. M. upon his excellent rendition. The assistant officers of this lodge are young, bright brethren, who evince a desire to present the work in correct form. Although this lodge is not strong in

point of numbers, nor have they prospects of a material increase in membership, they are in a sound financial condition, and afford a striking example to many stronger lodges of what can be accomplished by unanimity of purpose. The books of the lodge are well kept, and it is pleasing to know that old Richmond will ably sustain its position under the present officers.

25, Ionic Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: On my first visit to this lodge on Oct. 4th, 1898, I could not but be impressed by the unanimity of purpose which seemed to have permeated every officer and every member, and I am sure that the eminence to which this lodge has attained must be gratifying to the long line of distinguished craftsmen who have had the honor of being Master of such a lodge, and I am free to confess that I was surprised to find our ceremonies so faultlessly presented even where the lodge was presided over by such an impressive and magnificent exponent of our ritualistic ceremonies as W. Bro. E. B. Brown, W. M. It was my privilege to witness the exemplification of both the first and second degrees. The work was magnificent, and I would be making no invidious distinction were I to particularize the work of the acting J. D., who gave the most pleasing presentation of that officer's duties that it has ever been my fortune to witness. My pleasure in visiting the lodge on this occasion was enhanced by being privileged to assist in welcoming the genial and well-beloved G. S. W., R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, on his first visit to his lodge, and also to listen with delight to W. Bro. W. G. Eakins, P. M., who honored the brethren by his exceedingly able and interesting address on the "Meaning of some of the expressions made use of in our ceremonies." I must congratulate this lodge upon the wisdom displayed of having something valuable presented by some talented brother at each meeting of the lodge. The books of the lodge are kept in a manner to conform to the whole of the work of this lodge and leave nothing to be desired. When visiting this lodge again, on February 7th, 1899, the impressions left of my first visit were revived, and I am sure that Ionic Lodge will prosper exceedingly under the administration of the present W. M., W. Bro. F. Harcourt, who exemplified the whole of the first degree in his exceedingly capable manner. He was magnificently assisted by his officers. I had the pleasure of

witnessing a second initiation by the W. M.'s of St. Andrew's, Ashlar and Doric Lodges. The musical ritual as given on this visit was beautiful, and materially added to the impressiveness of the ceremony. I was again impressed by the treat provided by this lodge in listening to the G. S. W., R. W. Bro. Postlethwaite, who instructed and entertained those present on the pleasing subject. "What is Masonry?" The lodge is to be congratulated upon possessing such an indefatigable Secretary, and has had the honor of having the largest number of affiliations and the greatest increase in membership during this year of any lodge in the district and was entirely free from S. N. P. D. and withdrawals; yet it could hardly be expected otherwise.

75, St. John's Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: My first visit to this lodge was on Oct. 3rd, 1898, at which I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree conferred upon four candidates, the W. M., W. Bro. J. G. Boyce, upon the first, and the others were conferred by R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, D. D. G. M., Toronto West District, No. 11, W. Bro. M. Stewart, P. M., and V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson, A. G. S., and the work was, as would be expected from the qualifications of the officers of this lodge, of an exceptionally high standard, and this lodge must be congratulated upon the assistance rendered them by their efficient choir. I was deeply impressed by the excellent character of material which this lodge is receiving and the evidences of unanimity among the brethren. This lodge is exceptionally progressive, and is the strongest in point of membership and invested funds of any in the district, and I am pleased to note the benevolent spirit exhibited by them. The Treasurer, Bro. W. N. Eastwood, has been enabled to materially reduce the amount of outstanding dues, so that it is comparatively small at present. It was necessary for me to direct the Secretary's attention to some changes necessary in the keeping of the books of the lodge, which I noticed at subsequent meetings had received attention. At this meeting V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson was honored by his brethren on his first visit to his mother lodge since his appointment as A. G. S. by being presented with a suit of regalia befitting his exalted rank, on behalf of the brethren of his lodge. It was my pleasure to request this lodge to exemplify the first degree at the Lodge of Instruction

held in their hall on the 29th November, 1898, and I am deeply grateful for the many courtesies extended by them on that occasion. I was delighted to again visit this lodge on the 3rd April, 1899, when two candidates were received and the work of the W. M., W. Bro. J. G. Boyce, upon the first of these and that of W. Bro. Spencer Love, I. P. M., assisted by the W. M.'s of St. Andrew's and St. George, upon the second, left nothing to be desired. The charge as delivered by the W. M., was exceptionally pleasing. I had the honor of installing the officers of this lodge on the 24th June, 1899, and I have no doubt but that St. John's will be able to maintain the proud position it now holds under the present W. W. M., Bro. M. Levery, who will be assisted by a very efficient staff of officers.

87, Markham Union Lodge, Masonic Hall, Markham: When I arrived at Markham on the evening of February 24th, 1899, I was honored in being received by my old and tried friend, R. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant, and I had great pleasure in meeting my brethren. A lodge of this description, where so few of their members reside in the town where the lodge is held, must find it difficult to maintain the standard of efficiency that is required. Only seven of their members reside near to the lodge, and their meetings are often poorly attended. However, the brethren express hopeful views, and I am pleased to see the progress they are making this year, and accord to them all honor for the efforts they are putting forth. The W. M., W. Bro. Green, residing at Locust Hill, deserves congratulation for the interest he displays, and I have no doubt but that his energies will bring forth good results. I had pleasure in witnessing the exemplification of the third degree, the opening and closing in the several degrees, and the conferring of the ceremony for the first time by the W. M. and his officers was very fine, and I was afforded opportunity of witnessing the care and attention that is devoted to the preparation of candidates for advancement in the north-eastern portion of this district. When frequent opportunities of rehearsing the work are not afforded, as in this lodge, to see such good work reflects great credit upon the assiduity of the officers. Owing to a concert held in the town hall in aid of the town library, it militated somewhat against some of the brethren attending, but there were a larger number present than I antici-

pated. W. Bro. Mason, P. M., appears to be a careful and painstaking Secretary, and I look for this lodge to more than maintain their prestige under the present officers.

97, Sharon Lodge, Masonic Hall, Sharon: The night of my visit to this lodge was intensely cold and very stormy, and could not but deter all but the most ardent craftsmen from venturing from their warm fireside; yet on the night of the 21st March, 1899, through the kindness of the S. W., Bro. A. J. Traviss, who placed himself at my disposal, I enjoyed the drive from Newmarket in his comfortable cutter, and a pleasant party composed of several of the P. M.'s of Tuscan Lodge, under the guidance of their genial W. M., W. Bro. A. Webb, M. D., accompanied us. This lodge has only held its own in point of membership during the last ten years, and that it has continued to exist owing to its limited sphere reflects credit upon those who have devoted their energies to its interests. Whilst the situation and approaches of the lodge room are not what could be desired, the room itself is attractive, and I believe the brethren are doing as well as could be expected under their circumstances. The attendance book shows that at times it has been difficult to secure sufficient attendance to properly conduct the business of the lodge, and it was gratifying to me to be greeted by a large number of my brethren. The distance from the lodge room at which the officers of a lodge like Sharon reside, prevent meetings for rehearsal of work, and the quality of the work presented for my inspection exceeded my expectations. The second degree, as exemplified by the W. M., W. Bro. R. Breckon, was extremely creditable, and the work of the S. W., Bros. A. J. Traviss, gratifying. His general work and his delivery of the lecture of the degree required only commendation. In the absence of the J. W., S. D. and J. G., whose presence could hardly be expected on such a bitter night, owing to the distance at which they reside, their places were ably filled by three of the P. M.'s of the lodge, W. Bros. Melon, Power and Leppard. It was a source of gratification to me to hear the charge rendered in such an able manner by W. Bro. J. T. Power, P. M. The candidate for advancement was exceedingly well posted, as shown by his examination, and as is usual in the rural lodges of this district, much attention is devoted to instruction of

candidates for advancement. The books of the lodge, as kept by W. Bro. B. F. Pearson, P. M., were found in a state of efficiency, as would be expected from such an enthusiastic brother. I am pleased to know that this lodge will show an advancement this year and trust that prosperity will be their lot.

99, Tuscan Lodge, Masonic Hall, Newmarket: My visit to this lodge on the 8th February, 1899, was one of the most happy of the many pleasing incidents which have marked my term of office, and I was grateful on meeting our beloved Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. H S.. Mathews, and the officers and members of The Rising Sun and Sharon Lodges, and the many genial and enlightened P. M.'s of this lodge, and a large assemblage of the brethren. This was, I think, the coldest night of the winter, and the attendance of the brethren evinces the interest they take in all the meetings of the lodge. The registration book gave evidence of continued interest, the meetings being well attended. I missed the genial face of W. Bro. D. H. B. Phillips, whose demise we all lament. Although not having a candidate, at my request the first degree was exemplified, and the work of W. Bro. Webb, W. M., and his officers was such as would be anticipated from a lodge which has the continued and careful supervision of such a magnificent ritualist as R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M. At my request this lodge exemplified the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in Aurora on the 23rd of May, 1899, and I am deeply grateful for their kindness on that and many occasions. The books of the lodge are well kept, and I am certain that old Tuscan will make material progress in the near future.

129, The Rising Sun Lodge, Masonic Hall, Aurora: My first visit to this lodge was on the 3rd March, 1899, and to me was most enjoyable. I was welcomed by a very large assemblage of the brethren, although the night was very disagreeable. I was gratified at the undoubted evidence of the truly Masonic spirit which animates the lodge. I had also the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Webb, W. M., R. W. Bro. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and the officers of Tuscan Lodge, and W. Bro. Powers, P. M., and officers of Sharon Lodge, and W. Bro. Crossley, P. ., and officers of Robertson Lodge. They have a magnificent lodge room, and with some slight alterations in ante-room accommodation would leave nothing

to be required. I had the pleasure of witnessing the first degree and the opening and closing ceremonies of the second and third, and the W. M. W. Bro. McClosky and his officers acquitted themselves most creditably. This lodge is to be congratulated upon the efficiency of its officers. The attendance book gave evidence of the interest taken by the members in the meetings of their lodge, and the books of the lodge as kept by their efficient Secretary, W. Bro. Radcliffe, P. M., leave only the best impressions. At my request a Lodge of Instruction was held in this lodge on the 23rd of May, 1899, at which W. Bro. McClosky and his officers fittingly presented the third degree, and I am deeply grateful for the many courtesies extended to me by my brethren of The Rising Sun.

136, Richardson Lodge, Masonic Hall, Stouffville: When visiting this lodge on April 19th, 1899, I was pleased to again meet W. Bro. O'Brien, W. M., and officers and members of Zeredatha Lodge, also brethren from Markham Union and Brock Lodges. I was greeted with a large representation of members and was pleased to see by the register the continued interest shown by the members. The examination of a candidate for passing, and the opening, closing and exemplification of the second degree by the W. M., W. Bro. G. Collard, left nothing to be desired. As is customary in this portion of the district, when a candidate prior to passing or raising is presented to the Wardens for examination, they are enabled to prove their proficiency for advancement. This example might be emulated by the other portions this district to advantage. The books of the lodge are well kept, and Bro. Hand evinces the kindest interest in all the affairs of the lodge. The brethren who are in office give promise of this lodge being well officered for years to come.

218, Stevenson Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: I had the honor of visiting this lodge on the 10th October, 1898, when two candidates were initiated, the first by the W. M., W. Bro. Wilson, and in the second he was ably assisted by W. Bro. John Watson, P. M., and V. W. Bro. J. W. Jones, G. S. B., and I am pleased to report that the work of all the officers was exceedingly creditable, and the W. M. is entitled to all honor for the expeditious manner in which he handled the general business of the lodge. The books

evinced evidence of careful work on the part of the Secretary, Bro. J. L. Little, the register giving evidence of increased attendance, and all their affairs are in a very prosperous condition. It was with anticipated pleasure that I again visited this lodge on the 13th March, 1899, and I was gratified on meeting the W. M., officers and members of Ionic, St. John's, Doric and Occident Lodges. This lodge has now adopted the principle of having a P. M. as Secretary, and the books of the lodge as kept by W. Bro. Higginbottom, are first-class examples of what would be expected of one who is so efficient, and by his efforts material reduction has been made in the amount of arrears for dues. As they have appeared on their annual statements his books are according to the prescribed form and beautifully kept. The W. M., W. Bro. E. Egan, exceeded my expectations in his rendition of our beautiful ceremonies. He knew the work and had confidence in himself, and rendered it in such a manner as to call forth the highest encomiums. It was exceptionally pleasing his conferring of the first degree, and I was gratified to hear the charge rendered by him in such a beautiful manner. When a second candidate was received I again had opportunity of hearing the W. M.'s of Ionic and Doric Lodges perform their allotted duty with honor to themselves and their respective lodges. This lodge has made remarkable progress during the year, as is but fitting under such able administration as it has had.

220, Zeredatha Lodge, Masonic Hall, Uxbridge: I visited this lodge on the 27th March, 1899, and was pleased to find them so comfortably situated in their new hall, and in a little time they will have a very convenient and pleasant lodge and ante-room. The register shows the continued interest taken by the members, and I was gratified to note the regular and large attendance of their P. M.'s. It was with pleasure that I met the W. M., W. Bro. G. Collard, of Richardson Lodge, and renewed old acquaintance with the P. M.'s of this lodge. The reading of three applications for membership augurs well for their prosperity. The examination of a candidate for passing was particularly well done, reflecting great credit upon his instructors. I was pleased to hear him repeat the O. B. in such an accurate manner. It is very seldom it is given as accurate, even by W. M.'s when conferring the degree. I had pleasure

in witnessing the conferring of the first degree by V. W. Bro. H. J. Brown, and the opening, closing and excommunication of the second degree by the W. M., W. Bro. Green. The work of all the officers was remarkably good, and they are entitled to the highest commendation for their efficient services. The books of the Treasurer and Secretary are well kept, and Zeredatha Lodge is entitled to the congratulation of the lodges of this district for the high standard of efficiency they are maintaining. I regretted to hear what perhaps was the only criticism of my predecessor, R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapman of T. D. G. M., who has been honored by his country in his appointment to membership in the judiciary, and which will necessitate his removal to the field of his native work.

22nd, Bringham Union Lodge, Temperance Hall, Bringham. When visiting this lodge on the 20th of March, 1890, I had the pleasure of a nice drive from Moose Hill, through the kindness of the W. M., W. Bro. A. E. Mayor. This lodge has only a few members in Bringham, and many of the members have long journeys in order to attend the meetings of the lodge, and when the weather is disagreeable it is well-nigh impossible to have a quorum present. During the year of 1888 this lodge held six meetings, at three of which they had only a sufficient number of members to open the lodge. The lodge room occupied by them is used for other meetings, which is objectionable. The books of the lodge reflect great credit upon Bro. D. R. Beaton, the register showing that they have not had an initiation since December, 1890. This is the only lodge in this district which shows a decrease in membership during the last ten years, and I regret to know will still further decrease this year. I was pleased to meet the W. M., W. Bro. Green, and the officers of Markham Union Lodge at this meeting. The lodge was not opened until 8:45, and at my request was opened and closed in the three degrees, which was done creditably. Over an hour was spent in adjusting questions of difference of opinion as to what had contributed against the prosperity of this lodge. Quite a few questions on constitutional law were asked and answered, I think, satisfactorily to the brethren. I addressed the brethren at length as to what I considered should be done at once, and understand the W. M. can only confer the first de-

gree, it will be necessary for the officers to perfect themselves in their several duties, and when meetings of the lodge are called have the meetings held, if at all possible. Time is too valuable in this busy life to drive some miles, often at considerable inconvenience, anticipating pleasure at meeting in lodge with your brethren, and then to find that much valuable time is wasted, and that the officers, knowing there is no work to be done in many cases, do not attend, so that those who come miles have only opportunity of waiting impatiently for an hour or two, and then wend their way home with a feeling that the evening has not been well spent. This should not be; and if this lodge is to continue its existence radical changes are required in its method of conducting business.

316, Doric Lodge, Masonic Hall, Temple Building, Toronto: At my first visit to this lodge, on 20th Oct., 1898, the brethren devoted their time to discussing the state of affairs which exist in this lodge, and appointed a committee to see if a more brotherly feeling could not be engendered among its members. I was pleased to see such a large representation of its P. M.'s as were present exemplifying the interest taken by them in the welfare of the lodge. When visiting this lodge again on April 20th, 1899, I had the pleasure of witnessing the initiation of two candidates, and the work of the W. M., W. Bro. J. E. Cook, and his officers was exceedingly creditable, and I have no doubt but that the exemplification of our ceremonies during the term of office of he present W. M. will be fully up to the standard of excellence which must necessarily be maintained. It will require the display of tact on the part of those who are entrusted with the government of this lodge, and no doubt all the brethren who are interested in its welfare will be called upon to sacrifice a large portion of their time and endure many discouragements if this lodge is to continue its existence under present circumstances. The present state of affairs cannot long continue, and it is to be hoped that there is a brighter future for this lodge, which has many enlightened brethren among its members. If a more fraternal feeling was exhibited by some of the brethren affairs would soon right themselves. The Secretary, Bro. H. E. Griffiths, has his books in first-class order, and the Treasurer, R. W. Bro. Ardagh, P. G. J. W., deserves congratulation upon the

efforts he is putting forth to discharge the duties of his office.

339, Orient Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner East Queen street and Bolton avenue, Toronto: I was honored in being requested to instal the officers of this lodge at their meeting on 6th December, 1898, and at that meeting I was deeply impressed with the spirit of benevolence exhibited by the members of this lodge. I was greeted with a very large attendance, and at the opening of the Board of Installed Masters there were 32 present, evincing the interest taken in the installation for the third time of V. W. Bro. John Jones. On this occasion two pleasing episodes were the conferring of life membership on that pillar of strength to this lodge, W. Bro. Ira Bates, and the presentation of a P. M.'s jewel to the retiring W. M., W. Bro. J. W. Thompson. The books of the lodge, as kept by Bro. D. J. Kelly, display evidences of ability and attention. I next visited this lodge on 4th April, 1899, and found that the register gave evidence of large attendance of members and visitors, and I had the pleasure of witnessing the second degree conferred in an admirable manner by the W. M., W. Bro. John Jones, assisted by some of the P. M.'s of the lodge. The work of all the officers was very good. At the regular meeting of this lodge, held on the 4th of July, 1899, I healed Josiah Thomas Couch, as per dispensation of the M. W. the G. M. to me, under date of 22nd June, 1899, and at that meeting W. Bro. John Patton, P. M., who had been honored by this lodge by being made a life member, presented the lodge with a magnificent portrait of himself and ably entertained the brethren present with recollections of the early days of Orient Lodge, and the trials and triumphs of its members. While at this meeting no degrees were exemplified. The opening and closing in the three degrees was well and creditably performed. I regret that this lodge had a very large decrease in membership, mainly caused by S. N. P. D. I trust this is now ended in this lodge. The utmost care and attention is required in the management of this lodge, and I trust that the efforts of the W. M., V. W. Bro. John Jones, will meet with the success that they deserve.

343, Georgina Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner College street and Brunswick avenue, Toronto: When visiting *this lodge* for the first time on the 3rd December, 1898,

I was impressed by the feeling of benevolence exhibited by the brethren of this lodge and by the remarkable progress made by them. In the last four years they have had 110 initiations and have now a membership of 188, ranking fourth in point of number of lodges in this district. On the occasion of my visit honorary membership was conferred upon M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, G. M., R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Ardagh, P. G. J. W., and in so doing this lodge honored themselves. They have a magnificent lodge-room and are endeavoring to sustain the honor of our beloved fraternity. The work of the officers on the occasion of my visit in the opening and closing of the three degrees was of the highest standard, and the W. M., W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, although suffering from a severe cold, yet as a faithful worker deemed it his duty to be present and in conferring the third degree gave a very pleasing presentation. On the occasion of my second visit, 1st April, 1899, I was pleased to meet the W. M., officers and members of St. John's, Zetland and Alpha Lodges, and a very large attendance of members and visitors. The register gives evidence of continued interest, and I was pleased to note the very large proportion of their members who attend the meetings regularly. The exemplification of the first degree as presented by the W. M., W. Bro. A. B. Cordingly, and his officers on this occasion, left nothing to be desired, and I am sure it cannot be but pleasing to the brethren who have fostered this lodge to witness the efficiency it has attained. I was pleased to hear the W. M. present the charge in such an acceptable manner. I feel confident that the interests of this lodge will be fully conserved under the officers, who were installed in June last.

354, Brock Lodge, Masonic Hall, Cannington: I looked forward with great pleasure to my visit to this magnificent and progressive lodge, and when on the 22nd of February, 1899, I met my brethren in their very pretty lodge room, I was greeted with a large attendance of brethren. I was well pleased. The register gave evidence of the continued interest of the brethren, and I was impressed with the regularity of the attendance of the P. M.'s, who on every occasion turn out in large numbers. As in the other lodges in this portion of this district, I was pleased with the care and attention de-

voted to the preparation of candidates for advancement, and on this occasion the brother being passed reflected great credit upon those who took an interest in his welfare. From the character and ability of the officers of this lodge I anticipated first-class work, and when I witnessed the second degree as presented by the W. M. McLeod and his officers, I was delighted and feel assured that this lodge will be well officered for many years to come. The Secretary's books are well kept and show careful attention, but the signatures of brethren supposed to be subscribed to by-laws are valuable only as a collection of autographs, and I have no doubt, attention having been directed to this oversight, it will receive attention.

367, St. George Lodge, Masonic Hall, corner West Queen street and Bathurst street, Toronto: This lodge was requested by me to exemplify the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in the city of Toronto on the 29th November, 1898, and on that occasion amply justified the confidence reposed in them. I am grateful to W. Bros. J. J. Main and his officers for the splendid exemplification presented on that occasion and for the many graceful courtesies extended to me. Visited this lodge on the 2nd December, 1898, to have the pleasure of seeing my old friend, Bro. J. W. Hickson, installed as Master by that genial friend of his youth, R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and I was pleased to see such a large and representative assemblage of the brethren testifying to the popularity of St. George. The Master and newly-installed officers performed the duties which devolved upon them in an exceedingly creditable manner. They are all tried and trusty brethren, and the affairs of this lodge should prosper under their guidance. This lodge is favored by having a very large staff of P. M.'s who attend regularly, and in their Secretary, W. Bro. W. J. Guy, P. M., they have one whose work leaves nothing to be desired. The night of my second visit to this lodge, April 7th, 1899, was a very disagreeable one, yet, as on my former visit, I was greeted with a large attendance. The W. M.'s and officers of six of the city lodges, by their presence, made the meeting a very pleasant one. I was pleased to witness the exemplification of the first degree as presented by the W. M., W. Bro. J. W. Hickson and his officers. *and I am sure they will endeavor to uphold the prestige*

of St. George. The progress of this lodge has been marked, and in the hands of the present officers their enviable reputation will be fully sustained.

410, Zeta Lodge, Masonic Hall, 1299 West Queen street, Toronto: On the occasion of my first visit to this prosperous lodge on the 28th October, 1898, this lodge was honored with the presence of the M. W. the Grand Master, and, as at many of the meeting of this district, we had three D. D. G. M.'s present. My confrere, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, the genial D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, whose co-operation and support has been a source of great strength and support to me, also the D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, accompanied me to assist our brethren of Zeta in honoring our beloved Grand Master. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, and the pretty lodge room was well filled. This might have been termed a presentation night, as the lodge honored three of their P. M.'s on this occasion. It was with pleasure that I witnessed an exemplification of the first degree, and W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, W. M., and his officers ably sustained the reputation this lodge has earned for good work. The books of the lodge were found to be in good order. At my request this lodge exemplified the third degree at the Lodge of Instruction held in the city of Toronto on the 29th November, and I am intensely gratified at their magnificent success. I was honored by being requested to instal the officers of this lodge at their meeting on Dec. 23rd, 1898, which ceremony, with the valued assistance of the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, I had pleasure in performing, and I am sure that the present W. M., W. Bro. D. C. Little, will proudly maintain the standard of efficiency of this exceedingly progressive lodge. It was my pleasure to again visit this lodge on the 28th April, 1899, and found that the interest of the members in the meetings of the lodge was being sustained. The opening and closing of the three degrees was exceedingly gratifying, and the W. M. and officers fully sustained the reputation of their lodge in their magnificent presentation of the third degree. I look for the prosperity which this lodge is enjoying being continuous.

424, Doric Lodge, Masonic Hall, Pickering: The day of my visit to this lodge, Dec. 22nd, 1898, was very dis-

agreeable, and the wet and stormy weather militated against a good attendance. When viewing the register I found that the average attendance would be little more than is absolutely necessary, the same names appearing with but little change, and the burden of sustaining this lodge, although falling on a few willing workers, must at times be irksome. The example set by this lodge in the distribution of beneficence is meritorious and could well be followed by the stronger lodges of the district. Owing to their environments, this lodge can not expect large additions to their membership, and their progress this year is most pleasing. The approaches to the lodge room were not in a desirable condition, and the room itself would be benefitted by an airing before each meeting. The ante-room accommodation is not good, and being separated from the lodge room by only a thin partition, the talking of brethren in the ante-room is distinctly heard in the lodge room, and doubtless vice versa. I directed the attention of the lodge to the advisability of keeping the approaches presentable and also of some change being made in the present state of the ante-room. Bro. Geo. Parker, the Secretary, appears to do his best, but at my request some changes will be made in the method of keeping their books, as in another lodge in this district the book kept ostensibly for signatures to by-laws is valuable only as a collection of autographs. I was pleased that on the occasion of my visit I was privileged to see a candidate initiated, the first in this lodge since July, 1896. The work was exceedingly well done, the W. M., W. Bro. Gormley, giving a very pleasing presentation of that ceremony, and in which he had the able assistance of W. Bro. Kerr, P. M., and Bro. Bunting, S. W., and Bro. Greig, of Alpha Lodge, P. J. W. At my request the W. M. opened in the second and third degrees, and the work was creditably performed. It afforded me pleasure to install the newly-elected officers, and under the administration of the W. M., W. Bro. Bunting, there is no doubt but that the interests of this lodge will be well looked after. I trust that the measure of success will come to this lodge that their efforts merit.

430, Acacia Lodge, Masonic Hall, East Toronto: It afforded me pleasure to install the officers of this lodge on the 19th December, 1898, assisted by my confrere, the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W.

Bro. Curran Morrison, and through the kindness of W. Bro. Angus, W. M., and the members of Zetland Lodge, who were officially visiting Acacia on that evening, my journey to this lodge in their private car was exceedingly enjoyable. It was necessary for me to direct the attention of the lodge to the books of the Secretary, which had not been kept in accordance with the rules, and I have no doubt but that the present Secretary, Bro. H. A. Giles, will leave nothing to be desired. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, and I was pleased to see their pretty lodge room well filled. The newly installed officers acquitted themselves very creditably. On the occasion of my second visit on 17th April, 1899, I was pleased to note that the meetings held since my former visit were largely attended, and the interest taken by the P. M.'s of the lodge cannot but be gratifying. I anticipated witnessing good work at the hands of the W. M., W. Bro. W. J. H. Carnahan, and his officers, and in this I was not disappointed. Their presentation of the first degree was fully up to the high standard that such an accomplished W. M. would require, and I am sure that the interests of Acacia will be fully conserved by the present officers. I regret that business requirements prevented my accompanying my brethren of Acacia on their visit to Composite Lodge, Whitby, on the 1st of June last. I have pleasure in reporting that the regulation respecting payment of the expenses of the D. D. G. M. has in each instance been duly observed by the lodges of this district. Examination after raising is not usual among the majority of the lodges in this district. I have requested that this matter be more honored in its observance. The remarks formerly made use of in the majority of cases relative to the lectures and charges, I trust, will not now be heard with such frequency. I deemed it advisable to insist that the lectures and charges be given when degrees are conferred.

The many happy hours spent at the refreshment board with my brethren of each lodge have left pleasant memories. To those lodges who have extended their courtesies to the families and friends of their members at their at-homes, I have no doubt much good will accrue. To all of the lodges I tender my grateful expression of appreciation for the many kindnesses extended to me.

To the R. W., the G. S. W., R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, the R. W., the Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews, the V. W. A. G. Sec., V. W. Bro. Jos. Tomlinson and the Grand Standard Bearer, V. W. Bro. J. W. Jones, through whose unremitting attention and constant visitation my duties have been materially lessened, I desire to express my warmest appreciation.

I am under deep obligations to my confreres, the D. D. G. M.'s of the Georgian and Toronto West Districts for their continued co-operation and support, and I am sure my duties became a pleasure when sustained by their strength and geniality.

The R. W. the D. D. G. M. of the Toronto West District, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, has been unremitting in his consideration, and I have had the benefit of his wisdom and experience and the pleasure of his company in nearly all of my visits to the lodges of this district. R. W. Sir, I thank you.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, I am grateful for the courtesies extended and kindly consideration accorded me.

To all my brethren whom it has been a privilege to meet I desire to express my thanks for the many kindnesses extended to me, with the assurance that the year that is gone will indeed be pleasant to look back upon.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES GLANVILLE, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto East District, No. 11A.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Toronto East District, No. 11a, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Mem-ber-ship.	Degree's conf'd		Admittances.	Restorations.	Suspensions.	S. P. D.	Deaths.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief in arrears.	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees	Insurance.
						E. A.	P. C.						M. M.	Regular.	Emergency.										Total.
16	St. Andrew	Toronto	225	9	15	10	11	4	13	...	6	11	6	17	44	195 00	40	\$339 65	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Hall tr't	
23	Richmond	Richmond Hill	30	1	2	3	2	...	1	3	...	3	10	12	14	5 00	4	47 25	June 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	\$2500 00	
24	Ionio	Toronto	231	21	16	13	13	8	...	...	...	3	12	40	80	00	10	111 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excell'nt	Yes	Hall tr't
25	St. John's	Toronto	227	20	23	21	23	6	1	5	...	9	11	6	17	46	127 40	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excell'nt	Yes	Hall tr't	
75	Mark'h'm U	Markham	34	4	3	2	3	...	1	...	...	12	13	14	5	00	...	...	June 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	500 00
87	Sharon	Sharon	48	1	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	12	19	37 50	9	26 00	Dec. 27, '98	Solvent	Fair	Yes	300 00
90	Tuscan	Newmarket	50	4	4	3	4	1	...	...	...	1	1	6	8	18	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	300 00
123	Rising Sun	Aurora	55	3	8	6	5	...	4	1	1	13	6	19	13	21	31 00	June 24, '98	Imp'ving	Good	Yes	1500 00
136	Richards'n	Stouffville	35	3	6	2	2	1	...	...	...	10	5	15	13	5 00	8	126 00	June 24, '98	Fair	Very fair	Yes	900 00
218	Stevenson	Toronto	184	20	23	16	12	3	3	...	3	12	6	18	56	85 00	12	30 75	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Very good	Yes	Hall tr't	
220	Zeredatha	Uxbridge	67	6	4	3	13	...	...	...	...	14	1	15	20	25 00	2	30 75	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	500 00
269	Bro'gh'm U	Brougham	32	6	5	4	...	...	4	6	...	5	10	10	25	...	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Not good	Only fair	Yes	300 00
316	Doric	Toronto	133	3	5	4	...	4	4	9	...	10	6	20	40	115 37	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	Hall tr't
339	Orient	Toronto	152	16	9	9	4	2	6	5	23	1	4	12	24	94 85	00	370 40	June 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	1000 00	
343	Georgina	Toronto	188	19	25	34	8	7	10	9	...	1	12	14	10	00	6	90 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair	Good	Yes	900 00	
354	Brook	Canvington	53	6	3	3	31	1	3	1	...	12	12	14	35	30 00	7	318 00	June 24, '98	Good	Good	Yes	600 00	
367	St. George	Toronto	136	6	13	13	1	2	6	1	...	1	1	11	7	18	33	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	1500 00	
410	Zeta	Toronto	102	16	18	15	13	1	4	1	...	1	1	11	9	9	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Bright	Excell'nt	Yes	300 00
434	Doric	Pickering	31	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	45 00	6	19 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excell'nt	Yes	300 00
430	Acacia	East Toronto	74	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	13 00	...	...	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Excell'nt	Yes	300 00

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

As required by constitution, I beg to submit a report on the condition of Masonry in this district during the past year.

I had the pleasure of associating with my official duties R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson, Ontario Lodge, No. 26, as District Secretary, and Bro. the Rev. W. R. Young, of Hope Lodge, No. 114, as District Chaplain, and am under obligations to both for efficient services.

I first donned Grand Lodge regalia on Aug. 20, in Canandaigua Lodge, No. 294, Canandaigua, State of New York, whither the Port Hope Lodges had travelled to return a fraternal visit and see the M. M. degree exemplified according to New York's ritual. The turnout was very large, probably 250, and the reception most enthusiastic. Canandaigua is of Masonic history, and back in the twenties was probably the most noted Masonic place in the world. In the lodge room at present is a brick cell in which some man named Morgan spent some time for the good of his country, and about that cell centres a good deal of mythology. The work was most elaborately laid out and won our admiration.

I have been permitted to visit each of the 24 lodges in this large district once, and I think I know a good deal about every lodge—its style of work, its officers, its internal affairs. My reception as representing the Grand Lodge was very flattering, and the apparent desire everywhere was to produce a favorable impression. Upon my appointment I issued a circular drawing attention, at the Grand Master's request, to the desirability of using all wise methods to gather into the fold non-affiliates and brethren suspended for N. P. D., and at the same time stating that I would expect an exemplification of the same time stating that on my official visit I would ex-

pect an exemplification of one degree at least. I am assured that this circular, though overlooked in some cases, had a good effect. The statistical table will show how nobly many lodges responded. I have placed the lodges in numerical order for ready reference and commend the idea to the D. D. G. M.'s.

I held a District Lodge of Instruction in Port Hope on March 21st, and was honored by the presence of the Grand Master. The attendance was good and the number of lodges represented quite satisfactory. The program, which was carried out fully, was: 10 to 11 a.m., E. A. degree by Faithful Brethren, No. 77, Lindsay; 11 to 12, F. C., by J. B. Hall, No. 145, Millbrook; 2 p.m., E. A., by Fidelity, No. 428, Port Perry; 3 p.m., F. C., by Clementi, No. 313, Lakefield; 4 p.m., M. M., by Lebanon, No. 139, Oshawa, and 7:30 p.m., M. M., by Peterboro, No. 155, Peterboro.

Ontario Lodge, No. 26, Port Hope: I officially visited this, my mother lodge, on May 18th, the last official visit of my term. The attendance of members and visitors was quite flattering. The work for the evening was an initiation and a raising. Unfortunately the J.W. was absent through illness, but his chair was ably filled by the genial J. W. of J. B. Hall Lodge, an old member of Ontario. I had been present when the J. W.'s lecture on the T. B. was given by both the substitute and by Bro. Brown, and neither left anything to be improved. The traditions of the past demand from this lodge model work, but I am not quite sure that the officers were not just a little off color. It was late in the season, and I had seen W. Bro. Broughall and his genial staff work to better advantage. Everything about the lodge is done in a prompt, business-like way, and the impressive allegorical lessons of Masonry are deeply imprinted by deliberate enunciation.

Composite Lodge, No. 30, Whitby: I visited this lodge on February 2nd. The attendance was good. The opening and closing of the lodge in the several degrees, and the exemplification of the E.A. degree showed some joint practice. The lecture of the J. W. in the first degree by Bro. Hatch was exceedingly good. The brethren had noted the wishes of the Grand Master and affiliated two, and two applicants for Masonry were accepted. W. Bro. Burns is a pushing, inquisitive Master, who desires to know and do, and will leave his impress for good upon this lodge.

Jerusalem Lodge, No. 31, Bowmanville: Unofficially I visited this lodge on Nov. 23, when the Grand Master and a number of the members of St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto, were paying their devoirs to Wor. Bro. D. Burke Simpson. There were two initiations, and the officers of the lodge acquitted themselves so well that the Grand Master was quite enraptured. I officially visited the lodge on April 19th. The lay-out was one first, one second and two thirds. All the officers were in their chairs, and the work showed a finish and ease acquired only by constant practice. No greater evidence could be given of what can be accomplished by a W. M. inspired by his work, and a fixed determination to make it a success than Jerusalem exhibits. The past of the lodge has not been all prosperity, but W. Bro. Simpson's zeal roused the flagging energies, and to-day there is no more prosperous lodge than No. 31.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 39, Brooklin: I visited this lodge Feby. 1st. I was piloted by V. W. Bro. Taylor, a veteran in the ranks. There was a time when Brooklin was quite a flourishing village, but circumstances have dealt harshly with it, and it will require a good deal of self-denial and zeal to keep the lodge supplied with active work. The turn-out was good. Every available member was in his place, and among the members are several who are prominent in the political life of the noted South Ontario constituency. The officers exemplified the first degree, and while lacking somewhat in accuracy, it was replete with good will and fraternal spirit.

Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle: I visited this lodge on Feby. 7th, assisting R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson in installing Dr. Farncombe in the chair and placing the several officers in their allotted stations. I look back with pleasure on my visit, but my fears for great prosperity coming to this lodge, the mother of many a noted Mason, have been realized. The W. M. is a genial but a very busy man, and devoted soul and body to his profession. The field is limited and seems narrowing with the years.

Faithful Brethren, No. 77, Lindsay: I visited this lodge March 3rd. The attendance was good. Lodge room very pleasant and reception most cordial. I had the pleasure of presenting to the I. P. M., W. Bro. Britton, a Past Master's jewel. The F. C. degree was ex-

emplified by the new officers. The method was ahead of the accuracy, but as the W. M. of this lodge and his officers exemplified the E. A. degree at the Lodge of Instruction, I feel quite safe in saying that Grand Lodge work will not suffer in their hands. Masonry is not a live institution in Lindsay. A few years ago two strong flourishing lodges held the ground; one retired and F. B. is by no means aggressive. I have hopes that the presence of R. W. Bro. Judge Harding may be of assistance. The Mayor was present and promised to favorably consider affiliating, and with his well-known energy would help.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterboro: I visited this lodge Feby. 22nd. Large, magnificent room, splendid appointments, dais filled with P. M.'s, every available seat occupied; what lacked it, nothing. The work of the evening, four initiations. The first part of the degrees with three candidates taken by Worshipfuls, Very Worshipfuls, Right Worshipfuls, and then the Master swept through in gorgeous style, completing a beautiful panorama. The J. W. had been called away by a death notice, but how impressive the deep, resonant tones of the S. W., as he carefully and emphatically traced out the entire field of Masonry on the J. W.'s T. B. The atmosphere of this prosperous baby city is full of Masonry. The lodges are gathering in the wheat and rejecting the chaff.

Hope Lodge, No. 114, Port Hope: I visited this lodge on May 5th. Ontario and Hope Lodges jointly occupy the same hall, and have for themselves a beautiful, well furnished, well equipped Masonic home. Other halls are larger; none can be more attractive or exhibit better taste in its furnishing. As ever with this lodge, the attendance was good. The first degree was exemplified, but not with marked success. During the year I have frequently visited this lodge and have seen very much better work than upon the evening when Grand Lodge's representative sat in state taking notes.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Oshawa: I visited this lodge Dec. 13th. The attendance was disappointing, owing, however, to a very important meeting relating to town affairs, and by the time the fourth degree was called the audience had wonderfully increased. My train was late and I was disappointed in not seeing the first degree. I had, however, the full benefit of the third,

which was given in a most impressive, if not very accurate manner by W. Bro. Punshon. One Master told me, and I suppose no Master in the district could more fairly claim the license than the Master of Lebanon, "That no elocutionist ever bound himself down to accuracy." I liked the manner of giving this degree so well that the officers were invited to exemplify it at Lodge of Instruction and fully met the highest expectations.

J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145, Millbrook: I visited this lodge on April 20th. I was accompanied by V. Wor. Bro. Dr. Might, one of the founders of the lodge, and who has ever taken a warm interest in its affairs. The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Smith and a full staff of officers. J. B. Hall has been dwelling in twilight for some time, but with its present staff is taking on new life and promises well for the future. The work was well done and the spirit manifested throughout very inspiring. This case well exemplifies how much may be done by officers who, though no work is in hand or sight, stand ready by regular practice for what may offer. For our Lodge of Instruction I asked the W. M. to take one of the degrees, and he cheerfully assented, and the interest in the village was at once roused in the success of the team, and work followed as a natural consequence.

Peterboro Lodge, No. 155, Peterboro: I visited this lodge on March 8th. The work was the exemplification of the third degree upon two candidates. The spacious hall was well filled. As in Corinthian, there were P. M.'s galore. I have always possessed a low estimate of the Mason whose Masonry ends with a veer in the east, and conversely I have great respect for lodges like the Peterboroughs, which can count on the attendance and counsel of dozens who have won the highest honor the lodge could grant. Peterboro Lodge is the largest in the district and is up-to-date everywhere. Its J. W. is a driller of candidates. The examination of the last raised, as well as of the to be raised, was thorough and most satisfactory. I fear the former examination is not insisted upon in the lodges. This lodge was selected for the place of honor, exemplifying the M. M. degree in the evening at our Lodge of Instruction, and right faithfully did it maintain the confidence reposed in it. There can be nothing better than this lodge.

Norwood Lodge, No. 223, Norwood: I visited this

lodge on Feby. 21st. My predecessor handed this lodge to his successor for decent burial. I went down by the noon train and got a brother to show me round, and by evening I found a corpse most unwilling to be buried. W. Bro. Hutchinson is easy-going, but very sure-footed, and we had an application from a most respected and influential citizen, and two or three for affiliation. The first degree was exemplified in a fairly creditable manner, and I have hopes of old Norwood yet.

Verulam Lodge, No. 268, Bobcaygeon: I visited this lodge on Feby. 17th. The present Master is the last candidate initiated, and from his appearance better things might be expected. The I. P. M. is foreman in Boyd's mill and therefore one would think in a most influential position to draw. Bobcaygeon is a live, busy place, giving evidence of wealth and home comforts, and yet there is no Masonic enthusiasm anywhere within its bounds. I would like to spend a day or two with Mr. Smiff finding out why this is thusly.

Cedar Lodge, No. 270, Oshawa: I visited this lodge on Feby. 28th. The Oshawa brethren mingle with each other in the most cordial way, and I was told that even in business matters the brethren forget to which lodge they belong. Last year's returns gave to both exactly the same membership, but Cedar has slightly gained during the year. The J. W. and S. W. gave the lectures on their respective tracing boards with good effect. The exemplification of the third degree was a disappointment. W. Bro. Henry was a young Master of good ability, with a good staff of officers, and, I thought with environments to develop the best results, and it was one of the disappointments of my trip. I have so often thought in my visits that the Master, as he toils for accuracy, oft feels "cui bono." And yet the time comes when he wishes he had worked a little more carefully, or feels rewarded for the care bestowed, as praise or the absence of it enables him to judge results.

Clementi Lodge, No. 313, Lakefield: I visited this lodge of noble name on March 7th. W. Bro. McKay, of Corinthian; W. Bro. Conway, of Peterboro, and his J. W., Bro. Rosell, were my pilots, and creditably did they do their duty. The attendance was good; the model Secretary of the district was in his place (he always is), and a candidate awaited initiation. No time was lost in idle discussion. How often lodges are chilled by

these! and soon we were in the depths of work. The J. W. gave his lecture with good effect and the degree was impressively conferred. The officers of this lodge kindly exemplified the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction and won golden opinions for accurate work.

Orono Lodge, N. 325, Orono: I visited this lodge on Nov. 24th, Thanksgiving Day. My predecessor had not reached it, and as they had no accessions to their numbers for a long time I was anxious to lend a helping hand. The attendance was good, and from the very cordial feeling manifested I was led to hope better results during the year than the tabulated statement shows. The exemplification of the third degree was creditable to the officers. I suppose there is no help for the lodge but to be ready when work offers.

Keene Lodge, No. 374, Keene: I visited this lodge on Feby. 23rd. The turn out was complimentary and the reception pleasant. This lodge has advantage of one clergyman in the east and another in the west, and both did the work of their respective chairs in an exceedingly attractive manner. W. Bro. Shaw makes a very efficient Secretary, and is a strong pillar in the lodge. With their annual excursion, and so much to attract good material, I wonder why this lodge does not add to its numbers.

Lorne Lodge, No. 375, Omemee: I visited this lodge on March 2nd and was received by a goodly number of first-class Masons. The lodge made the terrible mistake of electing a non-resident for Master, and is consequently badly handicapped. It does seem to me that electing a brother to the chair simply for the brother's advantage is suicidal generosity. The lodge has had up-hill work financially and otherwise for several years, but had W. Bro. Macpherson or some other worthy resident taken the chair at last election hopes might be entertained of speedy recovery of old-time prestige. The first degree was well exemplified by W. Bro. Macpherson and the officers.

Victoria Lodge, No. 398, Kirkfield: I visited this lodge on Feby. 14th, and nowhere was a more cordial welcome given. Many brethren came miles, some on foot, to honor Grand Lodge's representative, and could not have manifested greater anxiety that the lodge would show up well. The Master is Wor. Bro. Mosgrove, teacher of the public school, and a busy man,

who depended upon memory to carry him creditably through the third degree, but, as oft before, memory proved very treacherous, much to Bro. Mosgrove's disgust. I carry very pleasant memories of this visit.

Spry Lodge, No. 406, Fenelon Falls: I visited this lodge Feby. 16 and had a quorum. The W. M. reluctantly undertook to exemplify a degree, and assured me I would be sorry if I insisted on seeing how work was done, and I was. I saw three very respectable looking brethren in the three principal chairs, who ignored their solemn pledges and made a sorry attempt, even by so doing, to confer the second degree upon an extemporized candidate.

Murray Lodge, No. 408, Beaverton: I visited this lodge on Feby. 13th. I spent the afternoon about the village and called upon some demitted members who, if affiliated, would strengthen the lodge. Some of these attended the meeting and we had a very pleasant time. The first degree was fairly well exemplified. The J. W.'s lecture was good and the manner of the work throughout satisfactory. The lodge needs reviving and possesses latent energy and a fairly promising field, and I look for accessions in the near future.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, Port Perry: I visited this lodge on Feby. 3rd. The attendance was good, and the lodge room, which has lately been furnished in artistic style, was very attractive. All the chairs were filled by the actual officers. The first degree was exemplified in up-to-date fashion and in a pleasing, dignified manner. I was so pleased with the work that I requested this lodge to take part in the Lodge of Instruction, and my confidence was not misplaced. I greatly regret that two attempts to secure the G. M. to dedicate their hall failed, and being myself unable to undertake the visit, much as I longed to do so, I deputed R. Wor. Bro. Miller and R. Wor. Bro. Rush to do the work, and they did it well.

Havelock Lodge, No. 435, Havelock: I visited this lodge on Feby. 24th and found a large attendance of bright, earnest, active Masons. We had two thirds and one first. The work was fully carried out according to Hoyle, the brethren taking a most active part in assisting the officers. This lodge has ways of its own, which would hardly suit staid, old-style places, but as its ways have developed a most prosperous lodge, I did not interfere. Time was no object, so we completed all the

ties before singing Auld Lang Syne in the wee sma hours.

Arcadia Lodge, No. 440, Minden: I visited this the baby lodge of the district on Feby. 15th. A drive of eight miles through the woods and over the hills of Haliburton landed me in an ideal Alpine village. I was soon waited upon by the Master of the lodge and arrangements completed for a prompt start. Every possible member was in his place, everything polished clean and bright for the meeting. The room is small but cosy, and even for the fourth degree provision ample. The second and third degrees were exemplified in an exceedingly creditable manner, the work of all the chairs being well and carefully done. There was evidence of team practice, and the Master seemed to fully know where every officer was placed. There is no more interesting lodge in the district.

I granted dispensations during the year to Peterboro Lodge, No. 155; to Arcadia Lodge, No. 440; to Havlock Lodge, No. 435; to Hope Lodge, No. 114; to Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77, to enable the brethren to attend Divine service clothed as Masons. In April I received an application from a number of brethren in Blackstock for a warrant to hold a new primary lodge in the village of Blackstock, but it was unaccompanied by a recommendation from Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, the nearest lodge, and I am advised officially that said lodge almost unanimously decided not to grant the required recommend, and from information received from prominent Masons belonging to other lodges I am led to conclude that at present it would not be in the interests of the craft to proceed further.

I tender to the brethren of Ontario District my thanks for placing me at their head, and for very many expressions in word and deed of cordiality and gratitude. During the year not a slip cog or jolt marred the pleasure of my trip; fraternity everywhere, discord nowhere.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the G. A. O. T. U. for so directing me in selecting evenings for my twenty-four visits; that in every case the weather was favorable, and no accident or misfortune prevented my keeping every engagement made.

I am grateful to the lodges for cheerfully bearing the expenses of my visits. Each lodge handed me a V besides in some cases, in addition entertaining me, which

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latter I declined when declining was possible. No D. D. G. M. ever more enjoyed the official visits or received greater kindness from his brethren. I hope I made some return for all the trouble taken by the brethren to make it so pleasant, and if in any way any lodge in the district thinks I can promote its interests my services are at its disposal.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES EVANS, D. D. G. M.,
Ontario District, No. 12.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report for the past year of Prince Edward District, No. 13. I am pleased to be able to report that the condition of nearly every lodge in the district is good and the future of Masonry looks bright. In every case the lodges were governed by good presiding officers, who are both able and willing to do all they can for the good of the order and their respective lodges in particular. I found in some particulars that there was a laxity in the payment of dues by the members of several of the lodges, but I am pleased to be able to report that in the majority of cases the dues are very well paid up. I am of opinion that this can be largely avoided if the Secretaries of the respective lodges use greater effort to get payment the first of the year.

The harmony which prevailed throughout the district when I was elected as your representative to Grand Lodge has continued throughout the year. No trouble has arisen to mar the good feeling that existed when I took the office, and I sincerely hope that my successors may have the same good fortune for years to come.

I visited all the lodges in the district on their regular nights of meeting and in every instance was received in such a cordial and hospitable manner that I shall ever feel grateful to the brethren throughout my life.

I would recommend that more attention be paid to visiting, as I find that wherever the brethren make a practice of interchanging visits it adds much to the interest of Masonry and is of material assistance in keeping up a good attendance.

I visited the lodges of my district in the following order:

Lake Lodge, No. 215: This being my mother lodge,

I made my first official visit there, on October 24th, 1898, and the work was exemplified by W. Bro. Wesley Sagar in a most satisfactory manner; the dues were well paid up, and the Secretary's books are well kept. The future for Lake Lodge looks prosperous.

Belleville Lodge, No. 123: I made my official visit to this lodge on the 3rd of November, 1898. W. Bro. Arthur Lewis conferred the first degree in excellent style. This lodge is in good shape, and counts among its members a number of able and enthusiastic Masons.

Percy Lodge, No. 161: Was visited by me on November 23rd, 1898. I was accompanied by W. Bro. Sagar, of Lake Lodge. Owing to the absence of W. Bro. Ewing, W. Bro. Humphries took the chair and did good work. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, the dues well paid up, and the Secretary's books are in good order.

United Lodge, No. 29: I spent a very pleasant evening with the Brighton brethren on November 24th, 1898. The work was exemplified in the first and second degrees by W. Bro. McLeod in good style. This lodge is in first-class condition in every respect, and the Secretary's books were especially worthy of mention. Several brethren from Trent and Lake Lodges accompanied me.

Tweed Lodge, No. 238: I visited this lodge on the evening of November 25th, 1898, and had the pleasure of the company of several brethren from Belleville. In the absence of work, the lodge opened in the three degrees, and Bro. Knight, of Belleville, gave a lecture on Masonry, which was one of the best I ever heard and was very much appreciated.

Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18: By special invitation from the brethren of Picton I visited that lodge on the evening of December 27th, 1898, to assist at the installation of the newly-elected officers. There was a large attendance, and the newly-elected J. W., Bro. Wright gave an excellent lecture on Masonry in the first degree. The prospects are bright for the W. M., Bro. Spafford.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91: I made my official visit to this lodge January 20th, 1899, and installed some of the officers. There was a good attendance, and the W. M., Bro. Bellamy, exemplified the work in a creditable manner in the second degree. This lodge is in a flourishing

condition. The Secretary, Bro. Keyes, has filled his position for twenty-nine years, and during that time has never missed a meeting. The Junior Warden is a particularly efficient officer and does great credit to the lodge.

Franck Lodge, No. 127: I visited this lodge January 23, installed their officers, and there being no work, W. Bro. Rose opened in the three degrees. This was creditably done. The dues of this lodge are well paid up, and it has a good staff of officers. I was accompanied by several brethren from Lake Lodge, who were well pleased with the cordial reception.

Marmora Lodge, No. 222: I visited this lodge January 24th, accompanied by W. Bro. Parliament, W. Bro. Sagar, and Bro. Brickman, of Lake Lodge, and Bro. Bailey, of Stirling. Two were initiated by W. Bro. Proutt, who did the work well. Bro. Hubble is a first-class Secretary, and the affairs of the lodge were in good condition.

Stirling Lodge, No. 69: Accompanied by several brethren from Lake Lodge, I visited Stirling Lodge, February 22nd, 1899. Owing to an accident the W. M. Bro. Boardman, was unable to attend. R. W. Bro. Shaw exemplified the second degree in his usual good style. The lodge is in a prosperous condition.

Craig Lodge, No. 401: My visit to the brethren at Deseronto was a specially pleasant one. W. Bro. O'Flynn, of Belleville; W. Bro. Stafford, of Lake, and W. Bro. Becker, of Brighton, and W. Bro. McLeod, of Brighton, accompanied me. The W. M., Bro. Miller, conferred the second degree in a creditable manner. The Wardens have their work well up. The Secretary, Bro. Roland, had his books and accounts in good shape. My visit was made on the 7th of February, 1899. A large number of brethren were present, and everything indicated that the lodge was in first-class condition.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 164: I visited this lodge February 21st. The first degree and two seconds were exemplified by W. Bro. Fred McDonald, and the third by W. Bro. Cunningham. The officers have their work well in hand, and Bro. Wilson, the Secretary, had his books in good order.

Consecon Lodge, No. 50: I visited this lodge Febv. 24th. The first degree was conferred by the W. M., Bro. Rowe. This lodge is in good working order and

is fortunate in having among its members R. W. Bro. Thornton, who is always enthusiastic and wide awake in Masonic matters. A large number of visiting brethren from Trenton, Picton and Lake Lodges were present. The officers have their work well up.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283: On the 1st of March I visited the Belleville brethren of Eureka Lodge. W. Bro. Brickman, the W. W., could not attend because of serious illness, but W. Bro. O'Flynn, who is always an enthusiastic Mason, presided. He conferred the second degree in an exceedingly creditable manner. This lodge has a very efficient set of officers, and the Secretary's books and accounts are always in a first-class condition. The dues are paid up and the lodge is a progressive one.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48: On March 21st, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Lattimer, I visited Madoc Lodge. The attendance was small owing to sickness in that locality. W. Bro. Tumelty conferred the first degree in a pleasing manner. The lodge is in good shape. The Secretary's books are well kept.

Moir Lodge, No. 11: I visited this lodge officially on March 22nd, 1899. A large number of brethren was in attendance. The work was exemplified in the first degree. There were three candidates, two of whom were initiated by W. Bro. Morden, W. M., and at his request W. Bro. Brickman, the W. M. of Eureka Lodge, who was ill when I visited that lodge, initiated the third. Bro. Nortrup gave the lecture in an impressive manner. This lodge is in good condition.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126: Owing to the Secretary not receiving any notice my visit to this lodge was quite a surprise. When I entered the lodge was about to confer the second degree. W. Bro. Bedford did the work well and the lodge is in good condition.

Trent Lodge, No. 38: I visited this lodge on the evening of April 18th, 1899. A number of brethren from Belleville chartered a boat and visited the lodge the same evening. There were also a number of visiting brethren from other lodges. The W. M., Bro. Rowe, conferred the first and the third degrees in an able manner, and at the request of the lodge I conferred one third degree as D. D. G. M. The lodge is well equipped, has efficient officers, and the candidates were first-class.

St. John's Lodge, No. 17: I visited this lodge April 22nd, 1899, accompanied by W. Bro. Becker, of Brigh-

ton; W. Bro. Spencer, of Trenton, and saw the work done in the first degree. W. Bro. Hewson is a good worker and is ably assisted by R. W. Bro. Hargraft and W. Bro. Buck. This lodge also has an efficient Secretary in Bro. McNaughton.

Belleville Lodge, No. 123: By special invitation of the W. M., Bro. Johnson, I visited the Belleville Lodge on the evening of May 4th, 1899. The work was exemplified in the first degree by W. Bro. Johnson and W. Bro. A. E. Lewis. The work was well done and the Wardens and their officers were well drilled in the work.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the brethren of Prince Edward District for the honor they conferred on me at the meeting of Grand Lodge, held in the city of Toronto, in electing me to the honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master. I wish to thank particularly my brethren of Lake Lodge for the sympathy and support they gave me throughout the year, and I thank my Masonic brethren throughout the district for the cordial reception with which they all received me. I feel that Masonry has made progress in our district during the past year, and hope that the love and harmony which exists throughout the district may ever continue.

DISPENSATIONS

The following dispensations were issued by me for permission to install officers on another date than provided by law:

Frاند Lodge, No. 127, to install their officers on the evening of Jan. 23rd.

Frank Lodge, No. 127, to elect officers Dec. 23rd, '99.

The following dispensations were issued for the purpose of attending Divine service:

Stirling Lodge, No. 69, to attend service June 25.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91, to attend service, June 25.

Fraternally submitted,

H. G. STAFFORD, D. D. G. M.,

Prince Edward District, No. 13.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Prince Edward District, No. 13, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Mem-ber-ship.	Degre's conf'd		Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.		Average attendance of member.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arreages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
						E. A.	F. C.							M. M.	Total.										Emergent
11	Moira	Belleville	163	19	4	17	15	17	2	1	3	1	3	1	14	519	45	\$30 00	34	\$140 00	June '99	Good.	Go. r.	Yes	\$4000 00
17	St. John's	Cobourg	182	12	11	11	11	3	1	0	1	0	1	15	318	35	94 25	69	203 85	D. c. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	2500 00	
18	Prince Edw	Brighton ..	77	3	2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	12	113	34	10 00	9	88 10	D. c. 27, '98	Go. r.	Good.	Yes	700 00	
29	United	Trenton ..	81	11	10	9	8	1	1	1	6	1	15	15	25	16 70	6	17 00	June 24, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	625 00		
34	Trent	Madoc	85	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	7	7	15	20 00	30	195 00	De. 27, '98	Good.	Fair.	Yes	9000 00		
48	Madoc	Consecon ..	38	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	1	1	13	13	10	11 36	06	11	26 05	Dec. '97	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	1900 00	
50	Consecon	Stirling	82	9	6	14	6	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	16	21 80	50	27	150 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	1050 00	
69	Stirling	Colborne ..	137	10	10	9	9	1	3	1	6	1	2	2	13	45	75 00	25	100 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	1050 00	
91	Colborne	Belleville ..	37	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	13	13	15	40 00	3	85 00	July, '98	F. r.	Fair.	Yes	350 00		
123	Belleville	Go'dn Rule ..	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	25 00	7	00	12	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	350 00	
136	Go'dn Rule	Campbellford.	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	25 00	7	00	12	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	350 00	
137	Frank	Frankford ..	66	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	25 00	7	00	12	Dec. 27, '98	Fai.	Fair.	Yes	350 00	
161	Percy	Warkworth ..	60	6	2	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	14	40 00	10	00	3	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	900 00
164	St'r in the E	Wellington ..	55	6	3	6	5	3	1	1	1	1	12	12	14	40 00	10	00	3	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	900 00
915	Lake	Ameliasburg ..	55	6	1	6	4	3	1	1	1	1	12	12	14	40 00	10	00	3	15 00	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
223	Marmora	Marmora ..	47	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	10	10	15	10 15	00	39	300 00	Dec. 27, '98	Poor.	Poor.	No	Joint	
239	Tweed	Tweed	59	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	11	11	19	50 14	49	25	14	49 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
233	Eureka	Belleville ..	59	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	11	11	19	50 14	49	25	14	49 25	Dec. 27, '98	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
401	Craig	Deseronto ..	55	4	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	19	50 14	49	25	14	49 25	Dec. 27, '98	Fair.	Good.	Yes	800 00

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in the Fourteenth Masonic District, and of my official duties during the past Masonic year.

I visited every lodge in the district with the exception of Elysian District, No. 212, which, after reaching Kingston, I was unable to visit on account of the dangerous ice crossing to Garden Island. However, the W. M., with the books of the lodge, the officers and a number of the brethren, met me by appointment at a joint meeting of two of the city lodges, when I was enabled to look into the healthy condition of the lodge, and to see with satisfaction a gain of three per cent in membership, well-kept books and an assurance from the W. M. that Masonry at the Island was as flourishing as circumstances would permit.

By request of the genial W. M. of The Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Wor. Bro. J. S. Skinner, I had the honor of installing the officers of his lodge, Dec. 27, at high twelve. There was a good attendance, notwithstanding the hour. The high reputation of this lodge, which occupies the foremost position in the district for Masonic zeal, good fellowship and entertainment, was fully confirmed in my acquaintance, the latter particularly so at the banquet, which was held in the evening at "The British," and which was most recherche in every appointment. This lodge has been most unfortunate this year in the loss of five members by death, among those the Junior Warden, Bro. Joseph Fortescue, who was dearly loved and respected by all the brethren. The lodge has done as much new work as in the preceding year, finances well in hand, has a most capable staff of officers, and is generally prosperous.

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On January 24th I visited Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, and had the honor of installing the new officers. There being no work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees very acceptably. The retiring W. M., Bro. J. A. Johnstone, is a most zealous Mason and has done much to improve this lodge during his term of office. It has now a good staff of officers. The Junior Warden, Bro. F. J. Skinner, is unconsciously well on the road to the Master's chair. The lodge has made a substantial increase this year in new members and restorations, but must record two deaths. Finances improving, books well and carefully kept, a prosperous outlook, and ought to largely increase its membership from its wide jurisdiction.

Feb. 3rd, 1899: Visited Westport Lodge, 441, and felt very much like being at home, nearly all the members having been drawn from my own lodge, Simpson, No. 157. There was one initiation, the work of which was exemplified in the W. M. Bro. Gorrell's own celebrated perfect form, he being one of the oldest Past Masters of Simpson Lodge. This new lodge has made a slight gain in membership this year; lately had an increase to its finances of about \$100, profits from an excursion, and being composed of enthusiastic and experienced Masons, I hope and look for its continued prosperity.

On March 7th I visited both Cataraqui and Minden Lodges, Kingston, a joint meeting having been arranged through the kindness of the W. M. of Cataraqui Lodge. It being his regular meeting night, there was, of course, a large attendance. All the officers of each lodge were present, and each set took part alternately in raising and lowering the lodge, the work being done in faultless style. There was a second degree conferred by the W. M. of Cataraqui in good form. I particularly admired the military precision with which the Senior Deacon performed his duties. Cataraqui Lodge has made a large gain in membership this year, but has suffered the loss of four members by death, among whom V. W. Bro. F. Rowland. There is much too large a sum for dues outstanding in this lodge. The finances are, however, much improved from last year, owing to the untiring interest taken by their universally favorite Secretary, R. W. Bro. Robert Hendry, jr., and the prospects of the large are very bright. Minden Lodge is pursuing the even tenor of her ways, reports a gain of

three new members, has well-skilled officers, finances carefully looked after, books well kept, and harmony prevails; one of the solid lodges of the district.

I visited Albion Lodge, No., 109, June 19th. There was a very good attendance, and I had the pleasure of witnessing a second degree given in a splendid manner. The lodge has made a gain of four new members during the year. Finances are first-class. Their very painstaking Secretary, Bro. J. Cooke, informed me that he had occupied that position for thirty-one years. A suitable recognition of so long and faithful services should be accorded.

Lorne Lodge, 404, Tamworth, was visited June 20th. An emergent meeting. No work being on, the lodge was opened and closed in a manner indicating a perfect acquaintance of the officers with their respective duties. I regretted to receive information of the indifference of several members living near in attending lodge. If the craft had to depend upon those members who are only Masons when there is a funeral, the magnificent progress she is now making could not be recorded. The very efficient Secretary, Wor. Bro. Jas. Aylesworth, keeps the lodge finances and records in perfect order, and dues well collected.

June 21st: I visited Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 146, Newburgh, and found in their Wor. Master, Bro. Robert Guy, and his officers very enthusiastic and well-informed Masons. There was no degree work to be done that evening. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a most enjoyable evening was spent in discussing lodge and craft matters. R. W. Bro. G. A. Aylsworth, P. D. D. G. M., who is Secretary of the lodge, informed me that the lodge has been called upon to expend for relief in very deserving cases a considerable sum, to which it cheerfully responded: in fact, I see from the reports, fifty per cent more than any other lodge in the district, each of which, I trust, Grand Lodge will, as usual, supplement.

Next evening, June 22nd, I found myself welcomed and loyally received by the brethren of Victoria Lodge, No. 299, Centerville, than whom are no warmer-hearted Masons in the district. Their members are widely scattered, but attend lodge pretty well. This lodge is in good circumstances and owns its lodge building, but as the room is on the ground floor I suggested the advisa-

bility of raising the building or exchanging for another. No degree work to be done, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a fair manner.

One of the best meetings I attended was at Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee, June 23rd. A large number were present, including several from Newburgh. Wor. Bro. W. S. Herrington, the W. M., conferred the third degree in a most impressive manner, and the whole work of the lodge that evening was as good as I have witnessed in the district. R. W. Bro. S. C. Warner, P. D. D. G. M., who had recently returned from Colorado, gave a very interesting description of the work of the craft in that State. I was glad to learn that through the splendid efforts of Wor. Bro. Herrington, the recent long list of very much in arrears members of this lodge is being greatly reduced. Every lodge should require its finance committee to see that each brother's account for dues is balanced in some way once a year. The lodge is doing well, with a bright outlook for the future.

On June 24th, I visited officially my mother lodge, Simpson, No. 157, and had the pleasure of installing the officers for the ensuing year. This lodge is doing its share of good Masonic work, and as well as any in the whole jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. After having suffered the loss of sixteen members by resignation in the formation of Westport Lodge, only five miles distant, the membership now stands at 52, having now but two and a half miles of territory on one side and five miles on the other, no very large increase in membership may be expected. The lodge finances are in a good condition and harmony prevails.

On June 26th, I visited Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa. There was a fair attendance. No degree work, but the officers acquitted themselves very well in the work of opening and closing the lodge. Finances of the lodge good. No calls for relief the past year. Harmony evidently prevails, and the membership of this lodge ought to increase.

I had the pleasure of visiting Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath, June 27th. Attendance good. This old lodge has a smaller membership than one would think it should have, but after considering its location and limited territory, it is doing very well. The work of opening and closing the lodge was very well done, indeed. The W. M., Bro. J. Morgan and his assistant officers

are well acquainted with the duties and work of their offices. Finances very good, and no more enthusiastic Masons to be found than in this old lodge.

I found in many of the lodges the absence of the statistics book, which should be immediately supplied.

Three dispensations have been issued for the purpose of attending Divine service.

I have endeavored to impress upon each lodge the great importance of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master's efforts towards restoration and affiliation of Masons who are out, and each one assured me of active co-operation. I trust that good results will appear there-next year.

I desire to return my thanks to my brethren of Frontenac District for having conferred upon me the high honor of election to the office of D. D. G. M. of this prominent Masonic District, and I have endeavored to show my appreciation of the same and the opportunity afforded for advancement in Masonic knowledge by devoting my best energies to my duties. I would assure my brethren that their many kindnesses extended to me during my term of office will long be held in pleasant remembrances.

Fraternally submitted,

L. S. LEWIS, D. D. G. M.,

Frontenac District, No. 14.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Frontenac District, No. 14, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

[illegible]

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit herewith my report on the condition of Masonry in the St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

Having witnessed the exemplification of the work in the various degrees, and closely investigated the interior economy of the different lodges under my jurisdiction, it gives me pleasure to be able to state that Masonry is progressing very favorably in this district.

As will be observed from detail report annexed, some of the lodges have fallen into rather lax methods of conducting their work. This, however, I am satisfied, will be remedied, and better results obtained in the future.

It is not my intention to enlarge upon the many magnificent receptions accorded me by the majority of the lodges which it has been my good fortune to visit, suffice it to say that I feel under deep obligations to the members of the fraternity in this district for the many courtesies and acts of kindness which have been showered upon me both as an individual when visiting their towns, and in my official capacity in their lodges.

I find that the interest taken in Masonry throughout the district is of a nature both deep and general, and the beneficial results which are bound to accrue from such condition will be widespread and gratifying.

In the course of my visits I have impressed upon the brethren the necessity for more frequent visits amongst the sister lodges, as, by this means, the teachings of the order will be promulgated to better advantage.

In regard to the suspension of members for non-payment of dues: In the course of my visits I have found that it is the practice in a number of lodges to allow too long a time to elapse before taking action in the case of brethren who have fallen into arrears, and I am of opin-

ion that if the constitution were more rigidly enforced in this respect in cases where there is evidence of wilful neglect, the outstanding balances due to this cause would be considerably reduced. Those Masons who are able to pay, but will not, should not be allowed to remain on the books of the lodge for more than sixteen months. In the case of those who are unable through stress of circumstances to meet their dues, however, then, that characteristic which is so eminently Masonic should be exercised to its fullest extent.

It will be observed from the statement of work done in the district during the past year that eight members have been reinstated. This I attribute in a large measure to the appeal made by the Grand Master for efforts to be put forth to induce demitted and suspended members to return to the fold, and the result, so far as my district is concerned, must be most gratifying.

Sussex, No. 5, and Salem, No. 368, Brockville: As was mentioned by my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Stayner, in his report for last year, efforts were being made to induce Sussex No. 5 and Salem No. 368, lodges of Brockville, to utilize the same lodge room for their meetings. I am happy to be able to report that this arrangement has now been consummated, and, at my earnest solicitation, my official visit on Tuesday, May 16th, was made the occasion for a joint meeting of these lodges, and the event was one which will be long remembered by the brethren present. In addition to a very large turnout of the local lodges, there were present representatives from fifteen different lodges, including delegations from Alexandria Bay, N.Y., and Ogdensburg, N. Y., the contingent from the former place numbering twenty-four, who were accompanied by their genial Worshipful Master Hume. In all there were about 200 Masons present. The third degree was exemplified by the officers of Sussex Lodge, while the openings and closings were performed by the officers of Salem Lodge, and I may say that the work of both lodges left nothing to be desired. I might mention particularly the smooth, neat manner in which the floor work was performed. At the close of our labors adjournment was made to the spacious banqueting hall, where these present were regaled with brilliant speeches from many of the prominent Masons, members of the lodges, and visitors, as well as more substantial matter in the shape of

edibles. The sentiments voiced by the visiting brethren from the neighboring Republic expressive of the good feeling existing between the two countries were particularly gratifying.

True Britons' Lodge, No. 14, Perth: I visited this lodge May 25th, 1899. There was a good attendance of members. The third degree was exemplified, and I may say, second to none in the district, especially the work of Wor. Bro. Geo. McMartin, W. M., to whom I am also indebted for many kindnesses. All books are well and neatly kept by the Secretary.

St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls: This lodge was visited by me May 26th, 1899, there being a large attendance of the members of the lodge and of visitors from Merrickville. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate initiated. The work was done in a manner worthy of "Old. St. Francis." I had the pleasure of hearing the Masonic music in connection with the initiation rendered for the first time in my district, and I must say it added greatly to the beautiful rendering of our work. The books of the lodge are kept as I expected they would be, A1, by R. Wor. Bro. Houston, Secretary. My visit to St. Francis will always be remembered by me with pleasant recollections.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 28, Kemptville: I arranged to visit this lodge May 24th, 1899, regular meeting, but owing to a celebration being held in Kemptville on that date, a quorum could not be had. I examined the books of the lodge, however, and found them in excellent shape, being kept by Wor. Bro. Bottom. Rt. Wor. Bro. Bascom, P. D. D. G. M., informed me that the officers do their work well.

Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, Merrickville: I visited this lodge on May 23rd, 1899. There was a good attendance, including a large contingent from Smith's Falls, amongst whom were Rt. Wor. Bro. J. A. Houston and Wor. Bro. Craig. A second degree was to have been conferred, but the candidate did not turn up, so the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The W. M. has his work in good shape, but has not the support he should have. The books are well kept and the lodge prospering.

St. James' Lodge, No. 74, Bethel (Nr. Brockville): I visited this lodge on May 22nd, 1899, and had a good meeting, visitors from Brockville, North Augusta and

Prescott being present. The officers are well up in their work, especially the W. M., who cannot be beat. The books are well kept. Financially the lodge is in splendid shape, owing but a small sum for their new lodge room.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, Athens: Visited this lodge June 1st, 1899. There was not a large attendance. However, this lodge is getting along very well and the work was fairly well done. As reported by my predecessor, the officers take an interest in their work, but do not receive the encouragement from the members being present they deserve.

Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott: I visited this, my mother lodge, on April 4th, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate initiated. The work was very well done, but not as well as I have seen the same officers do it. The Secretary's books are perfect, and the lodge owes its present good financial standing to his untiring devotion to its finances.

Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall: This lodge was visited by me on February 23rd, 1899. There was a fair attendance. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a third degree conferred. The work was done in such a manner as to leave no room for criticism. The books are splendidly kept, and the room, furniture, etc., are simply beautiful. This is one of the best lodges in the district.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburg: I paid my official visit to this lodge on February 24th, 1899. There was an attendance of twenty members. The work done was opening and closing in the three degrees, and initiating a candidate. The W. M. can do his work well, but has poor support. There are two adverse factions in this lodge, and anything but harmony prevails. The new Secretary seems to be taking pains with his books, but what the standing of the lodge is I cannot ascertain.

Friendly Brothers' Lodge, No. 143, Iroquois: I visited this lodge officially on February 21st, 1899. The work done was opening and closing in the three degrees, and exemplifying the first. Work fairly well done. I had expected to see it better. The books are well kept and the lodge doing well.

Lancaster Lodge, No. 207, Lancaster: I paid my official visit to this lodge April 10th, 1899. There were *thirty-five* members present. The lodge was opened and

closed in the three degrees in a very fair manner. The lodge room is neatly furnished. Secretary's books well kept. Financial standing good. I bespeak for this lodge a bright future.

Macoy Lodge, No. 242, Mallorytown: I paid my official visit to this lodge April 17th, 1899. Had a small meeting, only ten members being present. The W. M. was absent owing to illness. I took the chair, opened and closed in the three degrees, and drilled the officers thoroughly in the work, for which I received their very warm thanks, and I hope my visit will have put new life into them, as they have the material to make good Officers. The books, what there were of them, were very well kept. I recommended the purchase of necessary books.

Farran's Point Lodge, No. 256, Farran's Point: I paid my official visit to this lodge February 22nd, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree conferred upon a candidate, which added one more to this thriving little lodge. The work of the officers was well done and needed but little adverse comment. The books are well and neatly kept, and the lodge room, which they own, is neatly furnished. Most of the members of this lodge have to drive from two to ten miles. Attendance twenty-two members and two visitors.

Chesterville Lodge, No. 320, Chesterville: This lodge was visited by me on April 13th, 1899. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a second degree conferred upon a candidate. The work was all that could be desired, the W. M. doing his work beautifully. The old Secretary, V. Wor. Bro. Gillespie, has his books, as usual, in first-class shape. This lodge is prospering rapidly and I think its future prosperity is assured.

Harmony Lodge, No. 370, Delta: I visited this lodge officially on April 21st, 1899, there being a good attendance. I found a beautifully furnished room, but not as suitably laid out as I would have preferred. The work put on was of an exceptionally high order, the senior and junior Wardens being very good, but I afterwards learned that they were not the regular officers, but Past Masters. I received no explanation. The books are well kept and the lodge in good financial standing.

Henderson Lodge, No. 383, Winchester: I paid my

official visit to this lodge April 7th, 1899. About twenty members were present. There being no degree work, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees during which I instructed when necessary. The lodge room is poorly furnished and not fit for a Masonic lodge room. They, however, informed me that they were waiting for a new room to be built which they expected to get. The books are well kept and the standing of the lodge good.

Lansdowne Lodge, No. 387, Lansdowne: I visited this lodge officially on April 18th, 1899. This is the weakest lodge in the district, having only seventeen members, ten of whom were present, there being no work. I instructed them in the openings and closings, also in the more essential parts of the degree work. Although small they are very enthusiastic, and I trust that in the near future their labors may be crowned with the success which they deserve. The W. M. is fairly well up in his work. The books are fair. The lodge room is neat.

Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta: I visited this lodge officially on March 22nd, 1899. There was a good attendance of members and visitors present. The work in the openings and closings, and also degree work, was well done, the W. M. as usual being master of his work. The Secretary's books are fairly well kept. Lodge room neat and lodge prospering.

Lyn Lodge, No. 416, Lyn: This lodge was visited by me officially April 26th. There was a fair attendance of members and a large number of visitors from Brockville. The work was not up to the standard, but may have been caused through nervousness. The books are well kept. Large room, neat, and finances good.

Maxville Lodge, No. 418, Maxville: I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 11th, 1899, and was met at the station by the W. M. and Very Wor. Bro. Henry and others, to whom I am deeply indebted for kindnesses shown during my short stay. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and one degree conferred. The W. M. is well up in his work, but the officers need more practice. The books are well kept and prospects of lodge bright. I had intended not to mention any of the many banquets tendered me during my visits, but owing to the members' wives and daughters being present at this one I will say that a more pleasant time could *not well be had.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, OTTAWA, 5899. 279

Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria: This lodge was visited by me officially on April 12th, 1899. Had a good meeting, about thirty present, including seven visitors from Maxville, Very Wor. Bro. Henry kindly accompanying me. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees and a second degree conferred. The work was well done and great credit is due the W. M. for having got this young lodge into such good working order. The books of the lodge are well kept, and its future is bright.

LAYING CORNER STONE.

At the request of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I laid the corner stone of the Presbyterian Church at Maxville on the 14th day of June, 1899. The brethren turned out in good numbers, as also did a large number of visitors from surrounding places, and assisted me as Masons only could. The historic trowel was, I am happy to say, on this occasion, replaced by a gold-headed cane, presented by the congregation of the Presbyterian Church.

DEATHS.

Death has been at work during the year, thinning our ranks, and many have been summoned to that sublunary abode, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever and ever. May they rest from their labors.

DISPENSATIONS.

I granted one dispensation for the purpose of attending Divine service to Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEORGE ROOK, D. D. G. M.,
St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in St. Lawrence District, No 15, from June 24th, 1898, to June 24th, 1899.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's conf'd			Total No. of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.																			
				Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.																									
5	Sussex	Brookville	150	4	7	1	1	152	4	7	1	1	154	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$74.00	4	\$210.00	Dec. 27, '98	Excellent	Good	Yes	\$1200.00
14	Tr'e Brit'n	Perth	87	4	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	91	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	44.00	25	\$113.00	June 24, '99	Fair	Fair	Yes	700.00
94	St. Francis	Smith's Falls	99	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	101	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	87.00	25	\$113.00	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	500.00
95	St. Francis	Smith's Falls	99	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	101	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	87.00	25	\$113.00	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	500.00
95	St. Francis	Smith's Falls	99	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	101	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	87.00	25	\$113.00	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	500.00
95	Merrickville	Merrickville	59	7	6	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	71	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6.00	19	\$19.50	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Fair	Yes	Nil.
74	St. James	Bethel	53	6	5	5	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	61	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30.00	14	\$39.00	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	900.00
85	Rising Sun	Athol	43	5	5	5	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	49	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30.00	19	\$74.75	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	700.00
110	Central	Prescott	90	4	3	3	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	96	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17.00	19	\$74.75	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
126	Central	Prescott	90	4	3	3	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	96	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17.00	19	\$74.75	June 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25.00	6	\$111.63	Dec. 27, '98	Good	Good	Yes	800.00
143	Excelsior	Morrisonburg	74	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1</																						

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Sixteenth Masonic District during the past year, and whilst doing so I desire to extend my thanks to the brethren of the Sixteenth District for their expression of confidence in me in unanimously electing me to the high office of D. D. G. M.

I have paid an official visit to all the lodges in this district with the exception of Mattawa Lodge, and find them in a very satisfactory condition. The work was well done in most cases.

This district will compare favorably with any under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. I have had a very pleasant year, their being that peace and harmony which should always rule in a Masonic lodge. I had the pleasure of appointing Wor. Bro. Lockburn B. Scott as District Secretary, and have to thank him for the able assistance he has given me in my work. I issued a circular letter in accordance with the views expressed by the M. W. the Grand Master in his address to Grand Lodge to all the lodges in this district, impressing with the necessity of taking some steps to bring back to the fold worthy members who had been suspended or demitted from their lodges. I am sorry to report that the matter has not met with that success which I had hoped it would have been. It will only be by untiring efforts that any success will be gained.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

Prince of Wales, No. 371. Doric, No. 58. Fidelity, No. 231.

DISPENSATIONS.

The following dispensations were granted through me by the M. W. the Grand Master: Builders' Lodge, No.

177, Ottawa, to hold an at-home October 20th, 1898; also Fidelity, No. 231, Ottawa, to hold an at-home on March 2nd, 1899, both in Masonic regalia; Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186; Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, election of officers; Mississippi Lodge, No. 147; Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, and Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, to install officers; Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, election and installation. Also dispensations were granted to the following lodges to attend Divine service clothed in Masonic clothing; Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, July 31st, 1898 (and to decorate the graves of deceased brethren); also on June 25th, 1899; Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Aug. 14th, 1898; St. John's, 21A, on September 18th, 1898; Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, July 2nd, 1899; Pembroke Lodge, No. 128; Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186; Bonnechere, No. 433, for Sunday, June 25th.

INSTALLATIONS.

I had the pleasure of installing officers of the following lodges: Prince of Wales, No. 371, and Chaudiere, No. 264. I was assisted in the installation by R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Ottawa, on Dec. 27th, 1898; Lodge of Fidelity, No. 231, on 20th June; and I assisted R. W. Bro. Parlow in the installation of the officers of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, on 24th June, 1899.

DEATHS.

During the past year there has been an exceptional number of deaths in this district. There have been removed from our midst many old and zealous members of the craft whose removal will be very much felt in their several lodges. Mississippi Lodge mourns the death of Wor. Bro. J. M. Munro, who was a Past Master and a constant attendant at his lodge, and ever ready to do a share of the work. Bro. Duncan McIntosh was removed by having been killed while serving in the U. S. Army at Santiago, Cuba. St. John's, No. 63, mourns the death of Bro. John McArton, Bro. W. W. Cherrv. of Ashton, and Bro. George A. Wilson, of Carleton Place. Plantagenet Lodge laments the death of Bro. Frank Kains, their S. W. He was a very promising member of this lodge, and his death was a great loss. He was a constant attendant at his lodge, although he had to drive seven miles to attend the same.

Madawaska Lodge has had removed from their midst

Bro. G. A. Graser, of Kinburn. Doric Lodge has lost Wor. Bro. J. Smeaton; also Bro. Holmes Cowan, who met his death by an accident while attending the funeral of a friend. Pembroke Lodge, the departure of Bro. Thos. Mansells. Chaudiere Lodge has lost two brethren—Wor. Bro. W. H. Timbers and Bro. W. P. Kingsland. Civil Service Lodge, No. 177, also lost one of its members, Bro. A. N. McNeil.

I began my official visits by attending Doric Lodge, No. 58, on September 2nd, 1898. The lodge was opened by Wor. Bro. W. J. Kidd, W. M., in the east. The W. M. opened the lodge in the first, second and third degrees. The work of the evening was the third degree, which was conferred by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke, in his usual excellent manner. The officers were all well up in their several parts. The outlook for this lodge is very bright. The Past Masters attend very regular and take a part of the work when asked. The Secretary is a most efficient one and his books are neatly and carefully kept. I paid a second visit to Doric, No. 58, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Stephens, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. Clarke, of Hamilton. The work of the evening was second and third degrees. The second degree was conferred by the W. M. and the third degree by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke. The degrees were put on in excellent style and reflected credit on the two Wor. brethren. This lodge has always been a good working lodge in the past and it will maintain its good record in the future.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186: Visited on September 26th, 1898. The first degree was conferred in an excellent manner by Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., and he was ably assisted by his officers, who were all well up in their work. I was very much struck with the work and never have seen a degree better put on than was done on this occasion. The surroundings and lodge room are not in keeping with the work. I hope in the near future to see the lodge housed in better quarters. I was accompanied on my visit by R. W. Bro. D. Taylor, P. D. D. M. I was invited by Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., to pay them a second visit, he having the impression that my visit was not a favorable one. I was accompanied on this occasion by R. W. Bro. D. Taylor, P. D. D. K. M., V. W. Bro. W. Borthwick, and Bro. E. L. Horwood. The work of the evening was one second and two third degrees. The second was conferred by Wor.

Bro. Wm. Franklin and V. W. Bro. J. Smith, the first, third and Wor. Bro. F. L. Switzer, W. M., the second third, the work being equally as well rendered as on my former visit. There was a large attendance and most of the brethren had driven from six to ten miles. If this lodge are few in numbers they are extra good workers and enthusiastic members of the craft. After the lodge was closed down we were entertained to a supper at the hotel, where we spent an enjoyable time in speeches and songs.

Vankleek Hill, St. John, A21: I visited this lodge on 27th September, 1898, and was also accompanied by R. W. Bro. Taylor. This lodge has moved to a new hall, which is much pleasanter and suitable than their old place of meeting. I have impressed upon the W. M. the necessity of having the hall dedicated, but he and the brethren do not wish to have the same done till it is finally decided if this lodge will remain here or be transferred to Hawkesbury. Most of the brethren and the candidates come from Hawkesbury. I was heartily received by Wor. Bro. A. F. Robertson and his officers. There was a very good attendance of the brethren, although the Secretary had forgotten to notify them of my visit on this date. The first degree was conferred by R. W. Bro. E. Johnston, P. D. D. G. M. The lodge was passed and raised, and Wor. Bro. A. F. Robertson conferred the third in a very creditable manner, this being his first work in this degree. I pointed out some slight defects in the working of the lodge which should be remedied. The above was well received. The material taken in here is of excellent character.

Builders' Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa: On the 19th of October Builders' Lodge held an at home for its members and friends, and by special invitation the D. D. G. M. was present. This was one of the most pleasant Masonic gatherings that has taken place, as the invitations not only included the members, but the ladies. We do not often allow our wives to see lodge rooms and get a proper idea of what our meeting place is. About 200 sat down to the banquet table. After the toast list had been gone through with we adjourned to the blue room, where music and song were entered into for a space of time. During the program the lodge directed Wor. Bro. Sinclair to perform a pleasant duty by clothing R. W. Bro. F. Cook with the regalia of Past Grand Junior

Warden, the presentation being accompanied by an address. On 11th November, 1898, I had the pleasure of paying my official visit to this lodge, Wor. Bro. S. B. Sinclair in the chair. Wor. Bro. Sinclair conferred the first and second degrees upon the candidates. The work was most admirably done and reflected great credit on the W. M. and his officers. This lodge is one of the best in the district. They have a good number of Past Masters, who are always ready and willing to do their part to keep the lodge up to the standard. Wor. Bro. Sinclair retires from the chair, which is to be very much regretted, but his successor is one who promises to be able to take up the work and maintain the standard which it has attained.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa: Visited at regular meeting October 28th. I was accompanied by R. W. Bros. Taylor and Stephens, P. D. D. G. M. S.'s, V. W. Bro. Borthwick; also Wor. Bros. Luke Wilson, Devitt, Salmon, Sinclair and Fair. The work of the evening was the first degree, which was done by Wor. Bro. J. J. Mulligan, ably assisted by his officers, who were all well up in their several parts. Bro. J. W. Wilson gave the E. A. degree lecture on the tracing board, and it could not have been more perfectly rendered than it was on this occasion. The Secretary's books were examined and found well kept. The finances of this lodge are good, but would be much better if the dues were more promptly paid. There is a special effort being made to have the amount collected.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, Pembroke: I visited this lodge on Nov. 3rd, 1898, and was most cordially received by Wor. Bro. Dr. Bayne, W. M. A very large number of the brethren were present, including M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Past Grand Master, and a member of this lodge, my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Dr. Joseph and R. W. Bro. J. H. Buritt, P. D. D. G. M. The W. M. and his officers ably worked the first and second degrees, and would have given the third if time had permitted. This lodge is one of the most prosperous lodges in this district. It shows the good work done by the Past Masters, who have all done their share in bringing it to such a high standard. After the degree work we adjourned to the banquet hall, where an elaborate supper was served, accompanied by speeches and songs.

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte: On Novem-

ber 4th I paid my official visit to this lodge, receiving a very hearty welcome from the large number of brethren who were present, including Past Masters Wm. R. Pollock and J. M. Munro. This lodge is well officered and they are well up in the work, ably assisting the W. M. in conferring the third degree. The future of this lodge is of the brightest. The material they are adding is of the very best, as they strive to get quality, not quantity. Since my visit this lodge has sustained a great loss in the death of Wor. Bro. Munro. He was a true Mason and a good man, who tried to do his duty faithfully and well.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew: On the 7th of November I visited this lodge officially and was received with the greatest cordiality by Wor. Bro. T. Brownlee, W. M., and the brethren, among whom were R. W. Bro. D. Barr, P. D. D. G. M., Wor. Bros. Dr. Campbell, W. Mackay, John Mackay, Dr. Cleary and James Craig. Their being no work, the W. M. passed and raised the lodge and exemplified the third degree on one of the brethren present, the work being most creditably done, and showed the W. M. and his officers were well up in degree work. This lodge is prospering and has a very fertile field to work in. The good work done by the Past Masters shows out to-day. The Secretary's books were examined and found well kept, and the lodge in a good financial condition. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a repast was partaken of and a most enjoyable time spent.

St. John's, No. 63, Carleton Place, Nov. 9th, 1898: I was accompanied on my official visit by Bro. W. B. McArthur. This being the night of their election, there was a good attendance, Dr. D. H. McIntosh, W. M., in the chair. The result of the election was that Bro. Dr. Gorrell was elected W. M., the election being most harmonious and resulting in a good set of officers being elected to fill the chairs. The summons called for a second and third degree. The candidate for the former did not come forward, so the W. M. raised the lodge to the third and conferred the third degree in a most creditable manner, all the officers being well up in their work. This lodge has a bright future, and if the success that has been accomplished in the past years keeps up it should be a very strong and prosperous lodge. I examined the Secretary and Treasurer's books and found *them well kept* and the finances very satisfactory.

Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264: On the 5th Dec., 1898, I visited this lodge officially, Wor. Bro. D. McCuaig in the chair. This being the night of the election of officers, the same resulted in Bro. J. Elliott, S. W., being elected Master of the lodge. The other officers elected are good and true Masons, and the work should be done by them this year in an excellent manner. After the election the lodge was passed to the second degree. The work in this degree was done in a creditable manner. The attendance at this and other meetings of this lodge is not as good as it should be. The Past Masters do not attend with that regularity to infuse the younger brethren with the enthusiasm that should be.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, Dec. 14th, 1898: This being my mother lodge, I have had many opportunities of seeing the work done, and, judging of its character, it will rank among the first in the city. This lodge is making steady progress and is in excellent standing, both in members and finances. This meeting was called to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the lodge. There was no work to be performed. The members and friends of the lodge were given a rich treat by an address by Sir James Grant on the craft in Ottawa for the past 50 years, after which R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., read an excellent paper on the history of the lodge for the past 50 years. He brought to light many facts that have passed from the minds of many old members. Both of these addresses were very much appreciated by the brethren present. The lodge was called from labor for a space of time and repaired to the banquet hall, where excellent speeches and songs were given. This night will be a red-letter night in the history of old Dalhousie.

Fidelity Lodge, N. 231: On 20th December I visited Fidelity Lodge and spent a most enjoyable evening. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. W. Rea, P. D. D. G. M., V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, and a number of Past Masters. The attendance was good. Wor. Bro. J. A. Devitt, W. M., and his officers gave me a hearty welcome. The Master conferred the first and second degrees upon candidates and performed the work in a most creditable manner. The officers were well up in their work and will maintain the name this lodge has won for good work. After the lodge was closed down we adjourned to the banquet

hall, where a pleasant time was spent with the brethren. On March 2nd Fidelity Lodge held an at-home for the members and friends, and it was a most pleasant evening, when they were entertained with a good program, after which they adjourned to the banquet hall, where they had light refreshments and became better acquainted. From this meeting there have been a number joined the craft from a favorable impression they received of the order.

Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior: On the 13th March, 1899, I paid my official visit to this lodge. I was received by Wor. Bro. Richman, W. M., and his officers and was accorded a most hearty reception. This is the mother lodge of P. D. D. G. M. A. Hood, who is the guardian of the same, and ever maintains that interest and zeal that is his own characteristic. I had the great pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Hood on this occasion. I was accompanied on this visit by V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, Wor. Bro. Wm. Bowden, Bros. W. McArthur, John Wilson, C. Bethune and R. W. Shannon. The work of the evening was an initiation. The degree was given by Wor. Bro. Richman in a very creditable manner. The lodge is well officered and has a bright future before it. They are not increasing fast, but the material taken in is of the best. Bro. Whyte, J. W., gave the lecture on the tracing board and I was much surprised at the manner in which it was done. Bro. Whyte promises in the future to take a prominent place in this lodge.

Civil Service Lodge, 177, Ottawa: I had the pleasure of paying my official visit to this lodge on March 14th, 1899. I was received by Wor. Bro. L. B. Scott, W. M. The work of the evening was the third degree, but as the candidate did not come forward Wor. Bro. Scott gave an exemplification of the third degree work. The same was exceptionally well done and reflects great credit on Wor. Bro. Scott and his officers, who have grasped the true meaning of the work. The lodge was called from labor for a space of time and adjourned to the banquet hall, where the brethren were entertained to speeches and a musical program. This lodge is one of the most prosperous in the district.

The craft of Ottawa were called together on April 27th by Builders' Lodge, No. 177, to do honor to our M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone. The

chair of the lodge was ably filled by Wor. Bro. Sinclair, Wor. Bro. Jas. Elliott, Chaudiere Lodge, I. P. M.; Wor. Bro. J. A. Armstrong, Doric Lodge, S. W.; Wor. Bro. Lockburn B. Scott, Civil Service Lodge, J. W.; Wor. Bro. F. Cook and V. Wor. Bro. H. P. Macdonnell, D. of C.; Wor. Bro. H. H. Cairns, Secretary, S. D.; Wor. Bro. J. A. Devitt, Fidelity, J. D.; Wor. Bro. E. J. L. Gallagher, Prince of Wales, I. G.; Wor. Bro. John Robertson, Doric Lodge, the latter taking the place of the Master of Dalhousie Lodge, who was unable to be present.

Among those who gathered to do honor to the Grand Master were M. W. Bro. T. B. Flint, M. P., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; Past Grand Masters W. R. White, John Ross Robertson, of the Grand Lodge of Canada; D. C. Fraser, M. P., of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; John V. Ellis, M. P., of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; Hon. John Yeo, of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and C. N. Bell, of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, N. F. Davin, M. P., Geo. Landerkin, M. P., A. F. McLaren, M. P., Y. J. McAlister, M. P., John Tolmie, M. P., G. R. Maxwell, M. P., J. G. Rutherford, M. P., John McDougald, Commissioner of Customs, and 300 of the city members.

The lodge was opened in the first degree. After the reception of Grand Officers of other Grand Lodges, the Grand Master was received and ruled the lodge. The reception by Wor. Bro. Sinclair was the neatest and best I ever had the pleasure of hearing.

I had the very great pleasure of presenting the M. W. the Grand Master with an illuminated address on behalf of the craft in Ottawa. The Grand Master gave us a very able address, and we were also favored with addresses by M. W. Bros. J. Ross Robertson and D. C. Fraser. The lodge was chosen in the first degree. We adjourned to the banquet hall at 10 p. m., where I had the pleasure of presiding over one of the finest banquets ever held in this district. Addresses were given by M. W. Bros. E. T. Malone, W. R. White, J. Yeo, M. P., J. V. Ellis, M. P., T. B. Flint, M. P., C. N. Bell and R. W. Bro. Howard, J. McAlister and Wor. Bros. J. G. Rutherford, M. P., Dr. Landerkin, M. P., N. F. Davin, M. P., and Sir Mackenzie Bowell. The following brothers added to the musical parts of the program: Bros.

E. L. Horwood, C. H. Beddoe, C. Bethune, T.A. Brown and C. D. Fripp. Such gatherings cannot have any other effect than cementing the brethren together and renewing the true life of Masonry.

Bonnechere Lodge, N. 433, Eganville, May 8th, 1899: I was accompanied on my official visit to Bonnechere by Wor. Bros. W. McKay and Dr. Cleary, also Bro. R. Timmins, of Renfrew Lodge. I was well received by Wor. Bro. W. B. Beatty and brethren. Wor. Bro. Beatty, W. M., in the east. The work of the evening was two initiations. The Worshipful Master did the first and Wor. Bro. D. Sparling the second. The work was well done. The officers were not as well up with their work as I should have liked to have seen them. I pointed out the defects and showed them how to rectify some of the errors. My remarks were well received. The material taken in is very good and the future promises to be good. After the lodge had closed the W. M. invited the lodge to his residence to partake of a supper and become better acquainted.

Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark, June 2nd, 1899: I was accompanied on my official visit by Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke. I find this lodge without the guiding hand of a Master, Wor. Bro. Stewart having moved to Ottawa some time ago and has not paid a visit to his lodge since his removal. The lodge has been looked after by Wor. Bro. McFarlane and Wor. Bro. J. McLaren, both good workers. Wor. Bro. McFarlane acted as W. M. and conferred the second degree in a creditable manner. He was ably supported by the Wardens, but the other officers were not up to their work. It was suggested that the next W. M. call practice meetings, and in that way all the officers would become familiar with their several parts. I pointed out several defects, which will be remedied in the future. This lodge has had many difficulties to contend with. It was bad enough to be without a W. M., but the Secretary was away most of the time, and he was not up with his work. If it had not been for Wor. Bro. Field, who did his best to keep the work up, I am afraid this lodge, instead of being a fairly prosperous lodge, would have become extinct. With the election of a good W. M., this lodge has a bright prospect before it. It is financially good. Bro. Caldwell takes a warm interest in Evergreen. After the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to Bro. Dobbins, where

a sumptuous supper was partaken of and an enjoyable time spent in speeches and songs.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond: I visited this lodge officially on June 21st, 1899. I was accompanied by R. Wor. Bro. E. Parlow, P. D. D. G. M., V. Wor. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, Wor. Bro. S. A. Luke, Bro R. W. Shannon. I was received by Wor. Bro. A. E. McCortick, W. M., and his officers. The W. M. opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees in a very able manner. There should have been a third degree, but the candidate was not present. The attendance at this meeting was very small. The W. M. and officers are very regular in their attendance, although they live long distances from Richmond. The brethren in the immediate neighborhood do not attend, which is to be regretted. I addressed the lodge and pointed out some of their weak points and showed them how they might get a better attendance and instill into their members greater enthusiasm.

There were excellent addresses given by R. W. Bro. Parlow, V. Wor. Bro. Macdonnell, Wor. Bros. Luke, Dr. Gorrell and Bro. Shannon. I think, in the autumn, when the lodge reassembles, active action will be taken to place the lodge in a better state than they are at present. I examined the Secretary-Treasurer's books and found them well kept, but find that the arrears list is very large. This should not be. This lodge is situated in one of the best agricultural districts and the members are well-to-do. The W. M. and members intend making a personal canvass of all the members and got this list very materially reduced.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEORGE S. MAY, D. D. G. M.,
Ottawa District No. 16.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Ottawa District, No. 16, from June 24th, 1888, to June 24th, 1890.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Men-ber-ship		Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.		E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Affiliations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Decrease during year.	Decrease during year.		Decrease during year.	Decrease during year.									Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
21a	St. John's.	Vankleek Hill.	45	8	1	6	1	6	6	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	516	\$15 00	14	\$ 38 00	June 30, '90.	Fair.	Bright.	Yes	M. H. C.
52	Dalhousie.	Ottawa.	121	7	0	6	4	5	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	1,132	69 00	38	475 00	June 30, '90.	Good.	Bright.	Yes	M. H. C.
58	Doric.	Ottawa.	96	3	11	3	6	5	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	314	5 00	14	176 25	Dec. 27, '90.	Good.	Very good.	Yes	M. H. C.
63	St. John's.	Carlston Place.	102	8	3	7	6	2	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	316	90 00	10	50 60	Dec. 27, '90.	Good.	Very good.	Yes	\$ 900 00
122	Renfrew.	Renfrew.	100	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	114	80 00	32	171 25	June 7, '90.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
128	Pembroke.	Pembroke.	136	12	1	11	9	13	11	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	418	.....	57	458 50	Dec. 27, '90.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
147	Mississippi.	Almonte.	70	2	0	4	3	5	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	200	59 28	23	125 00	June 14, '90.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
148	Civil Service.	Ottawa.	82	6	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	207	59 28	50	277 50	Dec. 27, '90.	Good.	Good.	Yes	M. H. C.
159	Goodwood.	Richmond.	64	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	153 00	35	450 00	Dec. 27, '90.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	680 00
177	The Build's.	Ottawa.	128	14	1	10	8	6	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	315	.....	9	28 00	June 24, '90.	Very good.	Very good.	Yes	M. H. C.
186	Pt. St. Agnet.	Planagenet.	29	3	0	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	163	150 00	21	228 92	Dec. 27, '90.	Very good.	Very good.	Yes	None.
196	Mad'wa. ka.	Arnprior.	83	7	0	7	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	163	10 00	35	60 00	Dec. 27, '90.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
209	Evergreen.	Lenark.	37	4	0	4	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	513	10 00	31	251 03	June 24, '90.	Very good.	Very good.	Yes	100 00
251	Fidelity.	Ottawa.	96	15	0	12	14	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	914	34 25	40	380 00	.....	Fair.	Good.	Yes	.....
264	Chandler.	Ottawa.	107	6	3	6	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	318	17 00	25	940 65	June 24, '90.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
371	Pt. of Wales.	Ottawa.	67	3	9	5	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	214	30 00	40	553 46	Dec. 27, '90.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	Nil.
400	Mattawa.	Mattawa.	75	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	.....	7	125 00	Jan. 6, '90.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.
433	Bonnechre.	Eganville.	35	3	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	.....	7	.....	.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.

The City Lodge Room, furnishings, etc., are insured for \$3,000.00. * See report of Lodge Board of Relief.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor of submitting to you a short report as to the condition of Masonry in Algoma District, No. 17. At an especial communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the town of Rat Portage, on Tuesday, the 30th of August, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

By request of the M. W. the Grand Master, I, acting as G. M., and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, Grand Lodge was opened in due form at 1.30 o'clock p. m. I announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge was called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Central Public School.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off and a procession formed under the direction of the W. Bro. W. H. Carpenter, acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the northeast corner of the building. The Acting Grand Chaplain asked a blessing and the scroll was read. The Acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity of the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records. A beautiful trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to me by the Chairman of the School Board in behalf of the trustees. The Grand Wardens and Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

After addresses by W. Bro. Weir, of Rat Portage, and others, I, acting as G. M., consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it well made, truly

laid well proved, true and trusty. The procession was then re-formed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form. Afterward we all enjoyed a beautiful sail on the Lake of the Woods, the school board having very kindly invited the members of the craft.

I am very pleased to say that at Pequonga Lodge the best of feeling reigns supreme, and that the officers are well up in their work. The brethren have a good lodge room and well furnished, the arrangements of the lights, I believe, being unsurpassed by any in the district. While there I had the pleasure of meeting a number of the members of Keewatin Lodge, and from the able manner in which they took their part in laying the corner-stone and their work in the lodge room, I am sure Keewatin Lodge has an able staff of officers.

At the request of the M. W. the Grand Master, I had the honor to constitute and consecrate Dymont Lodge, No. 442, Thessalon. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. W. C. Dobie, Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, Port Arthur, and R. W. Bros. J. C. Farwell, W. H. Hurst, Keystone Lodge, No. 412, Sault Ste. Marie. I was much pleased at seeing so many members of this lodge present, also a number of visiting brethren, not only from our own Province, but from the United States. The prospects of this lodge are very bright; the officers are all capable in their work, and most enthusiastic for the welfare of their lodge.

They are possessed of a very good lodge room. The W. M., Bro. W. L. Nichols, has the full confidence of the officers and members of the lodge. He is a well-skilled Mason and most careful Master. R. W. Bros. Dobie, Farnell and Hurst kindly installed the W. M., and assisted the officers. After finishing the business of the evening we adjourned to a large hall, where we partook of an elaborate supper, which had very kindly been prepared for us by the wives and sweethearts of the brethren. An hour or two were spent most enjoyably in songs and speeches before the termination of a very pleasant visit.

Fort William, my mother lodge, was next visited by me officially. There was a good attendance of members, and a very pleasing and profitable time was spent. The W. M., Bro. C. H. Jackson, who is the youngest W. M. in the district, and one of the most capable, is

well skilled in conferring all degrees. He has associated with him as Wardens and junior officers brethren who are enthusiastic and who take a great interest in their work. W. Bro. Perry, Immediate Past Master, deserves great credit for bringing the lodge to its present flourishing condition, and under the capable management of its present Master and officers, it bids fair to become the banner lodge of this district. I regret to say that the amount of dues in arrears is too large, but every effort is being made to reduce them. I can assure you it would have been a pleasure for me, in making my report, if I could say that I had induced the brethren to re-instate all members free of charge who now stand suspended for N. P. of D.

I next visited Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, Port Arthur. Here I was pleased at seeing so many members present and a number of visiting brethren from Fort William Lodge, W. M. Bro. W. J. Clarke being in the east, there were no degrees exemplified. I did not need this to show me that the W. M. could perform his duties in a most creditable manner, as I am well acquainted with the lodge. I congratulate it on having such an efficient and enthusiastic Secretary as W. Bro. Morgan, whose books are admirably kept. I am very sorry that I have been unable to pay Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, Lake of the Woods, Rat Portage and Keystone, 412, Sault Ste. Marie, official visits. I had intended visiting them, but circumstances over which I had no control prevented me doing so. However, after having met and conversed with the members and officers of Lake of the Woods and Keystone Lodges, I can safely say that they are efficient workers and quite capable of conferring all degrees. I am satisfied that the lodges are in good condition. In conversation with R. W. Bro. Ferguson, of Rat Portage, and others who have visited Granite U. D., Fort Frances, I learn that the W. M. and officers are well up in their work and well skilled in conferring all degrees. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition, and I feel satisfied at its assured success.

In conclusion, I thank the brethren of the district for electing me to the high and honorable position of D. D. G. M., and for the kindly and hospitable manner in which I have been received everywhere. I have also to express my sincere appreciation of the kindness and assistance which I received from R. W. Bros. W. C. Dobie,

Shuniah Lodge, and C. J. Farwell, W. H. Hurst, Keystone Lodge.

My brethren, my work has been done imperfectly and falling far short of my ideal, and any omissions on my part I know you will cover with the mantle of Masonic charity.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

ALLAN McDOUGALL,
D. D. G. M. Algoma District, No. 17.

NIPISSING DISTRICT, No. 18.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit to you a brief report on the condition of Masonry in Nipissing District, No. 18.

My first official act was to appoint Bro. F. P. Warne, of Muskoka Lodge, No. 360, District Secretary, and I take this opportunity of thanking Bro. Warne for his kindness in accompanying me on nearly all my official visits, at great expense to himself.

The brethren of the district having done me the honor of electing me D. D. G. M. of the Eighteenth Masonic District at the annual communication, held in the city of Toronto, 1898, I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the trust reposed in me, and also for the very kind and cordial manner in which I was received by the various lodges in the district.

I visited all the lodges in the district, some of them twice, and am pleased to be able to state that Masonry is in a flourishing condition in this portion of the grand jurisdiction with very few exceptions.

443: On the fourteenth of November, 1898, I visited Powassan Lodge for the purpose of constituting and dedicating the lodge and installing the officers. I was assisted in the work by Wor. Bro. Barber of Algonquin Lodge, 434. Worshipful Bros. Way, Liddle and Huntington, of Nipissing.

Lodge 420: I am pleased to be able to state that this new lodge is doing well, I met the Worshipful Master several times since I visited the lodge, and he informs me that the lodge is progressing.

360: I visited Muskoka Lodge on 27th December, and had the honor of installing my son Worshipful Master of this, my mother lodge. I was assisted by R. Wor. Bro. Huber, V. W. Bro. Whitten and Wor. Bro. Hallett, of Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie. I also attended a very

successful at-home given by this lodge on 29th December, at which were present R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, R. W. Bro. Huber, V. W. Bro. Whitten, W. Bros. Hallett, Bridgeland, Mahaffy, and a number of brethren, This lodge is not progressing as I would like to see it, but the lodge is sound, and when any work is done it is done well. Owing to a defective roof, this lodge was unable to hold meetings for four months, which accounts for the small number of meetings held.

409: I visited Golden Rule Lodge on the 16th of January and installed the Worshipful Master and what officers were present. I am sorry to have to report that this lodge is the only lodge in the district that is not getting along as it should. However, the Worshipful Master is doing his best to get the lodge in better shape. I visited this lodge again on the 19th June, 1899, when the third degree was exemplified on a candidate at the request of another lodge. The work was done fairly well by R. W. Bro. Mowrey, at which I assisted. There was another brother for the third degree, but as he was not well up in the work of the previous degree, I thought it better to let him wait till he was better prepared.

427: I visited Nickel Lodge on the 8th of February. The Worshipful Master was absent through illness. W. Bro. Gordon presided. The third degree was exemplified by W. Bros. Gordon and Read and fairly well done. This is the only instance in which I asked lodge to call an emergent meeting. I was met at the station by R. W. Bro. Howey, W. Bros. Gordon and Read, and a number of brethren, who received me in a very cordial manner. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition, they having, I think, the finest lodge room in the district, and are doing good work.

420: I visited Nipissing Lodge on 9th February, W. Bro. Young, the W. M., in the east. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. A candidate was present for the second degree, but owing to the extreme cold (36 degrees below zero) and the brother just recovered from an attack of la grippe, it was thought advisable not to work the degree. W. Bro. Young opened and closed the lodge in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

434: I visited Algonquin Lodge on the 28th of February, when the second degree was worked in a very creditable manner by W. Bro. McDonald, the W.M. I

also visited this lodge on 25th April, at an emergent meeting, to attend the funeral of the Chaplain of the lodge, Rev. Bro. Chowne. At the request of the Worshipful Master, I conducted the funeral service at the grave. There was a very good attendance of the brethren from Muskoka Lodge, Unity Lodge, Powassan Lodge, Granite Lodge, Strong, etc. This is a progressive lodge and is doing good work.

423: I visited Strong Lodge on 15th March, W. Bro. Dunn, the W. M., in the east. As I was very late in arriving owing to the train being late, the third degree was worked by the W. M. before my arrival, but the first degree was worked after my arrival by W. Bro. Wicket, but the work was not as well done as I would like to see it.

376: I visited Unity Lodge on 8th March, W. Bro. Cullen, the W. M., in the east. The work of the first degree was fairly well done by the W. M. and his officers. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

352: I visited this lodge on the 19th April. The third degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Pirie, assisted by R. W. Bro. Knifton and V. W. Bro. Foote, and am pleased to say that I never saw the work done better. W. Bro. Pirie is an excellent workman. The brethren of Granite Lodge received me in a most courteous manner. I will always remember with pleasure my visit to Granite Lodge.

I issued the following dispensations during the year:

On the 18th December, to Algonquin Lodge, 424, to attend Divine service.

To Powassan, 443, on 25th June, to attend Divine service.

To Nipissing, 420, to attend Divine service on 25th June.

To Strong, 423, to attend Divine service, on July 2nd.

DEATHS.

The following deaths occurred in this district during the year:

Alfred W. H. Chowne, of Algonquin, 434, died 20th April, 1899.

Robert David Fair, of Algonquin, 434, died 20th of April, 1899.

E. R. Reed, of Unity, 376, died May 6th, 1899.

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Granite Lodge reports a death, but I have been unable to obtain name or date of death.

In conclusion, I have to thank Right Worshipful Bro. Huber and the brethren generally for their kind assistance, and for the very courteous manner in which I was received in the several lodges.

Fraternally submitted,

RICHARD MILLS. D. D. G. M.,
Nipissing District, No. 18.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Neplasing District, No 18, from June 24th, 1894, to June 24th, 1895.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's confd			Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
352	Granite	Ferry Sound	67	3	5	6	6	1	13	6	18	\$38 00	6	\$ 45 00	Dec. 27, '94	Fair.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
360	Muskoka	Bracebridge	39	2	1	1	1	1	8	8	10	.....	17	96 06	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Fair.	Yes	\$700 00
376	Unity	Huntsville	72	3	3	2	2	1	13	13	18	.....	13	120 42	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Fair.	Yes	\$800 00
408	Golfen Rule	Gravenhurst	32	3	3	4	3	1	7	5	9	15 00	41	241 70	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Fair.	Yes	\$800 00
420	Niissing	North Bay	86	7	8	6	5	1	12	11	16	40 00	53	300 55	Dec. 27, '94	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$700 00
427	Nickel	Sudbury	90	13	1	13	10	6	18	6	19	.....	57	108 00	June 27, '95	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	\$200 00
433	Strong	Rundridge	45	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	11	11	8	60 00	Dec., '94	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$900 00
434	Algonquin	Emmalee	38	10	9	6	5	1	13	4	16	20 50	1	6 50	Dec., '94	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
443	Powassan	Powassan	24	6	5	6	4	1	13	4	15	.....	1	.....	Dec., '94	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON WARRANTS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board of General Purposes, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Warrants, beg to recommend that warrants be issued to Lake of the Woods Lodge, Rat Portage, and Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, both in Algoma District, No. 17. These lodges have been working under dispensation granted at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, and an inspection of the minute books proves that satisfactory progress has been made. The requirements of the Constitution have been fully complied with.

Fraternally submitted,
L. SECORD,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The board through the Committee on Audit and Finance have audited the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and certify to their correctness.

All monies received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer and their receipt acknowledged by that officer; vouchers have been produced for all payments made by the Grand Treasurer as authorized by Grand Lodge.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives a full statement of receipts from all sources as well as other business transacted in the office.

The total receipts have been.....	\$21,040 92
The total expenditures have been.....	18,793 32

Receipts over expenditures.....\$ 2,247 60

The receipts last year were \$19,798.82, making an increase for this year of \$1,242.10.

The expenditures last year were \$18,338.29, making an increase for this year of \$455.03, which is accounted for by the fact that M. W. Bro. Gibson did not draw any of his traveling expenses until the end of his term of office.

In accordance with the recommendation of the board last year, the following debentures were purchased:

Debentures of town of Woodstock to pay.....3.60 p.c. \$7,000
Debentures of town of Brockville to pay.. ..3 9-16 p.c. \$3,000

\$10,000

The total amount paid for the debentures, including premiums, was \$11,529.08.

The funds of Grand Lodge on May 31st, 1899, were as follows:

The British Canadian Loan & Investment Co. at 4¼ p.c.	\$15,000 00
The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co. at 4¼ p.c.	15,000 00
The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co. at 4 p.c.	10,000 00
The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co. at 4 p.c.	10,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.	10,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan and Debenture Co. at 4¼ p.c.	5,000 00
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co. at 4¼ p.c.	5,000 00
Woodstock Debentures (face value) at 6 p.c.	7,000 00
Brockville Debentures (face value) at 4 p.c.	3,000 00

Total Investments.....\$85,000 00

Current Account—Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....\$11,302 22

\$96,302 22

Making the investments as follows:

Toronto....	\$35,000 00
Hamilton... ..	15,000 00
London.....	25,000 00
Woodstock... ..	7,000 90
Brockville....	3,000 00

\$85,000 00

Which amounts represent the balance at the credit of the following accounts:

General Fund.....	\$80,655 17
Asylum Fund.....	15,646 75

\$96,302 22

The board have examined the following accounts and finding them correct, recommend their payment:

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.. ..	\$ 100 00
Grand Secretary Balance of Incidentals to May 31, 1899.....	118 92
Grand Secretary Advance for Incidentals.....	500 00
Grants to Benevolence.....	10,150 00
General Masonic Relief Association Annual Fee.....	119 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond.....	50 00

\$11,037 92

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The Committee on Printing and Supplies report that the following accounts are correct and the board recommend their payment:

Spectator Printing Co., Proceedings and General Print- ing.....	\$ 434 08
R. Duncan & Co., binding, etc....	55 85
J. Eastwood & Co., Stationery.....	76 06
Howell Lithograph Co., Cheque Books.....	32 00
Copp Clark & Co., Certificates.....	424 25
	\$1,022 24

A letter has been received from R. W. Bro. Jaques, of Jarvis, who has recently visited the lodge, in reference to the petition presented by the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge of Jerusalem, asking for permission to make an appeal to the world for assistance to build a Masonic Temple at Jerusalem. While the board cannot see any reason for changing their decision of last year in reference to the granting of this permission, yet if they can see their way clear to build the Temple without asking for outside assistance, Grand Lodge might reasonably make them a grant of \$200 on the completion of the same.

Fraternally submitted,

A. R. HARGRAFT,

Chairman Sub-committee on Audit and Finance.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON BENEVOLENCE.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board, through the Committee on Benevolence, beg to report that they have received 291 applications, which have been dealt with as follows:

150 applications from private lodges, of which 140 have been granted, amounting to \$5,530.00.

10 have been refused.

125 applications from L. B. of R., of which 119 have been granted, for \$2,000 00.

Six have been refused.

Special grants by Grand Lodge:

Mrs. Wilson.....	\$ 150 00
Miss Mary Wilson....	300 00
Miss M. H. Harris..	75 00
Mrs. Harington.....	150 00

Interim grants for temporary relief since the last annual communication.....	355 00
Total grants, 1899.....	10,115 00
Total grants, 1898.....	10,475 00
Decrease in 1899.....	355 00

Fifteen brethren and five women have received the maximum grant.

Returns have been made by all lodges who have received supplementary aid, except Nos. 17, 33, 48, 57, 69, 85, 99, 107, 129, 141, 142, 161, 166, 204, 222, 277, 295, 299, 303, 311, 315, 336, 358, 373, 386, 391, 397, 401, 428—222 lodges.

The board regret the large number of lodges neglecting to make returns and recommend that no cheque for this year's grants be forwarded to any of the above lodges until satisfactory returns of last year's grants are received by them for local relief.

Returns have been made by all the local boards of relief now in existence.

The board regret that the local boards at Belleville and Brantford have been dissolved.

Fifty-four lodges receiving grants from Grand Lodges

and making returns have contributed.....\$ 2,253 00

And six making returns contributed nothing.

Local Boards of Relief contributed.. ..\$ 2,582 74

During the year 1898 the amount contributed for benevolence was as follows:

Grand Lodge grants through all sources.. ..\$10,395 00

Grants by fifty-one lodges..... 2,253 00

Grants by local boards of relief.... 2,582 74

\$15,230 74

The board recommend that no payments be made on acries be printed in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge, and that the supplementary report of the board on interim grants be not printed.

The board recommends that no payments be made on account of grants made to new applicants or to those in which investigation is specially directed by the committee, until after investigation by the inspector.

Owing to the length of time which has elapsed since the last inspection (three years) the board recommend that an inspection be made of all applications for relief which came before the sub-committee at this Annual Communication and that a full report be made thereon.

The board recommend that the inspector be paid for his attendance on the sub-committee the sum of \$15 and expenses.

The board again express their appreciation of the great benefit to the craft of the work of the General Masonic Board of Relief of the United States and Canada.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN E. HARDING,

Chairman Sub-committee on Benevolence.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Benevolence be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board beg to report upon the cases of Grievances and Appeals laid before them, as follows:

1. Unity Lodge 376, Huntsville, vs. Bro. F. G. Pokorney, larceny and conviction therefor by the courts of competent jurisdiction.

Grand Lodge ordered at its last communication (see G. L. Proceedings, 1898, page 273), that Bro. Pokorney be summoned to show cause at this meeting of Grand Lodge why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. The proper notice has been sent to the said brother, and he having made default, your board recommend that Bro. F. G. Pokorney be expelled from the craft.

2. Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, re Bro. Wm. Patterson. Application of above lodge for the restoration of Bro. Patterson, who was expelled by Grand Lodge in July, 1881. The matter was remitted to the D.D.G.M. of the Georgian District to report for the reasons given last year and reported in Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1898, page 273. The board have the report of said D. D. G. M. before them to the effect that Bro. Patterson is still unrepentant of the act for which he was expelled in 1881. Your board therefore recommend that the petition for restoration be not granted.

3. Marmora Lodge, 222, vs. Bro. Donald Clarke, larceny and conviction by court of competent jurisdiction. Grand Lodge at its last meeting ordered that Bro. Clarke be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. Bro. Clarke has appeared before your board by W. Bro. B. Lott, who has given your board in writing such evidence as justifies them in recommending that the M. W. the Grand Master appoint a commission to investigate into the truth of the facts alleged by Bro. Clarke, said commission to report to the Grand Master, who shall have power to remove the suspension passed by Marmora Lodge upon Bro. Clarke, and in the meantime the summons to appear given Bro. Clarke be enlarged to next meeting of Grand Lodge subject to the decision of the Grand Master as aforesaid.

4. Scotland Lodge, 193, vs. Bro. J. Zimmerman, forgery, etc. Grand Lodge at its last session ordered that Bro. Zimmerman be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show

cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offences. The proper notice having been sent to the brother, and he having made default, your board recommend that Brother J. Zimmerman be expelled from the craft.

5. Corinthian Lodge, 96, vs. Bro. S. J. Sanford, embezzlement of county funds. Grand Lodge at its last communication (see G. L. Proceedings, 1898, page 274) ordered that Bro. Sanford be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the said offence. The proper notice having been sent to the brother and he having made default, your board recommend that Bro. S. J. Sanford be expelled from the craft.

6. Bro. Thos. Rutherford, of Valley Lodge, 100, vs. Bro. Chas. N. Pirie, seduction of a Mason's daughter. The brother was tried by his lodge on the 23rd day of January, A. D. 1899, found guilty, suspended indefinitely, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Against this decision, Bro. Pirie, by his solicitor, on the 27th day of June, 1899, appealed on the ground that there was no evidence given of any offense committed, and that the greater portion of the evidence before said lodge was hearsay evidence, and that the decision arrived at was contrary to the weight of evidence, although no evidence was adduced for the appellant. Your board are of the opinion that the evidence is not entirely conclusive of the guilt of the accused, and we recommend that a new trial be had.

7. W. Bro. W. Wright and Seven Star Lodge, 285 (see G. L. Proceedings, 198, page 285). In this case, which was an appeal, by W. Bro. Wright against the action of Seven Star Lodge in dismissing a charge against one Bro. McGirr, a member of said lodge, for misappropriation of moneys. Grand Lodge ordered that Seven Star Lodge be ordered to produce all books, evidence and papers before this meeting of Grand Lodge for investigation upon said appeal. The said lodge has sent your board a full statement of the facts showing that the lodge refused to accept the charge against Bro. McGirr, and W. Bro. Wright has also sent what evidence he had in support of his said charge. Your board cannot say that Seven Star Lodge erred in refusing to accept the charges and place Bro. McGirr on trial. Your board further are of the opinion that Bro. McGirr committed no Masonic offence, and recommend that Bro. Wright's appeal be dismissed.

8. Lodge 332, Stratford, vs. W. Bro. Yeman, procuring abortion. Grand Lodge at its last communication ordered that the W. Bro. should be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. Evidence having been given that proper notice was sent to the W. Bro. and he having made default, your board recommend that W. Bro. J. G. Yeman be expelled.

9. St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris, vs. W. Bro. C. M. Foley, embezzlement. Grand Lodge at its last annual meeting ordered that W. Bro. Foley be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the said offence. The proper notice having been sent to the W. Bro., and he having made default, your board recommend that W. Bro. C. M. Foley be expelled.

10. Frederick Lodge, 217, Delhi, vs. Bro. W. H. Wilbur and W. Bro. C. G. Wood, charges. (1) That Bro. Wilbur stated with malicious intent that no one could get into the lodge; (2) that said brother did disclose his intention of keeping out at least one candidate for initiation because his son had been rejected; (3) that said Bro. Wilbur did cast a black ball against at least one of two candidates because his son had been rejected and did disclose such ballot after it had been taken; (4) that Bro. C. G. Wood was aware of and sympathized with Bro. Wilbur's intention of keeping out candidates for initiation; (5) that the said W. Bro. Wood did approach Mr. Geo. A. Smith, a candidate, and did inform him of Bro. Wilbur's intention of blackballing Mr. Thos E. Morgan, another candidate to be balloted for, because said lodge had rejected his (Bro. Wilbur's) son. The proceedings by the said lodge upon said charges are in our opinion wholly irregular. Your board therefore recommend that all the said proceedings be vacated and the said brethren restored to good standing, without prejudice to said lodge or any member thereof laying other or similar charges and proceed thereon de novo.

11. Wilson Lodge, 86, Toronto, vs. R. W. Bro. T. Sargent. (1) Lascivious, immoral and disgraceful association with the wife of a brother Mason, and who is a member of Rehoboam Lodge, 65; (2) violation of obligation; (3) violation of particular injunction of the ritual; (4) misdemeanors involving moral turpitude. The R. W. Bro. was tried by his lodge on the 8th day of October, 1898, found guilty, suspended indefinitely, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your board concur in the action of Wilson Lodge, and recommend that R. W. Bro. Sargent be summoned to appear before the next communication of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the said offence.

Fraternally submitted.

JAMES H. BURRITT,

Chairman Sub-committee on Grievances and Appeals.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. James H. Burritt, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Grievances and appeals be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board have received and carefully read the reports of eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as the tabulated statements of the nineteen districts, and are pleased to

report that of the 361 lodges in the province 356 have been officially visited and inspected during the year, and that many of them have been visited two and three times. Only five have not been visited, viz.:

Vienna Lodge, No. 237.... ..Vienna.
 Keystone Lodge, No. 412.....Sault Ste. Marie.
 Mattawa Lodge, No. 405.....Mattawa.
 Lake of the Woods Lodge, U. D.....Rat Portage.
 Granite Lodge, U. D.....Fort Frances.

One report, that of the D. D. G. M. of Frontenac District No. 14, having through an error been forwarded too late, has not yet reached the board, but the D. D. G. M. has furnished a verbal report and the tabulated statement for the district, which enables the board to report upon the condition of all of the lodges in the jurisdiction.

The seven lodges reported at the last communication as not having been visited have in accordance with the recommendation of the board been inspected this year, and the board urge upon the incoming D. D. G. M's. the necessity of visitations being made to every lodge, and that special attention be given to the five lodges named.

The board are pleased to be able to report that the D. D. G. M's. have performed their duties in a most painstaking manner. Considerable sacrifice of time and money are made by these officers. While almost invariably they have been welcomed and hospitably entertained, the board regret that in some instances their services have not been recognized by even the payment of their traveling expenses. The board once more call attention to the plain duty of the lodges in this particular, and confidently hope that this will be the last occasion upon which it will be necessary to refer to the matter.

From the reports of the statistical tables sent in by the D. D. G. M's., certain important facts bearing upon the condition of Masonry are apparent.

1. There has perhaps been more than usual care exercised in the selection of material.

2. There has been a net gain in membership of 1,088, making a total membership of 25,084.

3. Of the 361 Masters of Lodges 331 can work all the degrees. Of the remaining 30, several can work two degrees, while a few can work only one.

4. The private benevolence of the lodges during the year has amounted to \$8,448.

5. 312 lodges have their properties insured against loss by fire, but 49 have no insurances at all.

6. There is perfect harmony in all the lodges with four or five exceptions.

The above broad facts indicate that Masonry in this jurisdiction is in a healthy condition. It is considered advisable, however, to direct the attention of the District Deputy Grand Masters to the importance of insurance against loss by fire, and it is suggested that they endeavor during the coming year, to induce the lodges not insured to conform to the oft-repeated recommendations of Grand Lodge in this regard.

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The annual cost is very small, while if a lodge loses its furniture and properties, having no insurance, its progress and prosperity may be seriously retarded, if not destroyed.

The public recognition of God and religion, by attendance as Masons at Divine service, seems to have been very generally observed throughout the districts.

One D. D. G. M. reports having issued dispensations to elect officers in a lodge at a date other than that fixed by by-law and another to instal officers of a lodge at a date other than fixed by by-law. The board directs attention to these irregularities, with the view of impressing upon D. D. G. Ms. that these are illegal acts. In the Grand Master alone is vested the exercise of this prerogative. The cases in which D. D. G. M's. may issue dispensations are enumerated in the constitution.

The board note with pleasure the attention paid by the various D. D. G. Ms to the expressed wish of the M. W. the Grand Master, that special efforts should be made to restore to active membership non-affiliates and brethren suspended for non-payment of dues. While no appreciable results are as yet apparent, the fact remains that the question has been discussed very generally in the lodges, and an interest aroused which with continued effort cannot fail to bear good fruit.

The reports of the D. D. G. Ms. are most interesting and valuable, containing as they do a history of the condition and work of the lodges in their respective districts, but there is much in some of these which is of no general importance to Grand Lodge. Notably the names of the brethren whom they met, or who accompanied them in visitations, the method of conveyance, the state of the weather, and unnecessary details of hospitalities extended to them. While pointing this out, the board recognize the indefatigable efforts of these important officers, who have without exception energetically and faithfully discharged the onerous and responsible work entrusted to them.

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Chairman Sub-committee on Condition of Masonry.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board through the Committee on Constitution and Laws, have the honor to give out the following report:

The board are informed that the following notices of motion have been or are to be withdrawn, and they therefore do not think it necessary to report on them:

No. 3. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 4. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 5. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

No. 6. M. W. Bro. Ross Robertson.

Nos. 8 and 9, R. W. Bro. Burritt.

Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. V. W. Bro. Cuthbert.

The board confine their observations respecting the notices of motion to their bearing on the constitution in that respect.

No. 1 seems unobjectionable.

No. 2 seems unobjectionable.

No. 7 seems unobjectionable.

No. 15 seems unobjectionable.

No. 16 seems unobjectionable.

R. W. Bro. Burritt has informed the board that Nos. 8 and 9 will be withdrawn simply for the purpose of recasting them and providing for proper safeguards in connection with the consent of a lodge and other matters, and that he proposes bringing them forward in amended form at next meeting of Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-committee on Constitution and Laws.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Constitution and Laws, be received.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board, through the Committee on Printing and Supplies, beg leave to report:

1. That they have examined the following duly certified accounts, and recommended the same to the Audit and Finance Committee for payment:

Spectator Printing Co. (Hamilton), Proceedings, Constitutions, etc.....	\$ 434 08
R. Duncan & Co. (Hamilton), binding, etc..	55 85
J. Eastwood & Co. (Hamilton), stationery, etc.....	76 06
Howell Litho. Co. (Hamilton), cheque books.. . . .	32 00
Copp, Clark & Co. (Toronto), certificates, etc.. . . .	424 25

\$1,022 24

2. A very general desire has been expressed by members of the craft throughout the jurisdiction that full-page, half-tone portraits of the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge since its organization to the present time, should be secured for publication in the Proceedings from year to year until the list is exhausted. The board heartily concur in this timely request, and beg to recommend (a) that the portraits of five (5) Grand Masters, according to seniority, be inserted therein; (b) that the same procedure be followed from year to year until the number shall have been completed in accordance therewith; and (c) that the Grand Secretary be empowered to procure from year to year such portraits as may be required, furnish the same to the contractors for printing, and attend to their insertion in suitable places throughout the annual Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

3. In conformity with instructions from Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary secured six tenders for the lithographic work required by Grand Lodge, and in the presence of the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary, the Chairman of this committee opened the tenders alluded to, and the board unanimously recommend that the offer of the Alexander & Cable Lithographing Co. be accepted, their's being the lowest. They also recommend that the necessary agreement be executed by the Grand Secretary with the above-named contractors in accordance therewith.

4. The board will endeavor to place the different reports of Grand Lodge (those deemed prudent to print at this time) in the hands of the brethren as soon as possible after their submission to Grand Lodge, and not before.

Fraternally submitted,

J. S. DEWAR,

Chairman of Sub-committee on Printing and Supplies.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved, That the report of the board on Printing and Supplies be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE FRATERNAL DEAD.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren—

On behalf of the Board, I beg to submit the following report:

Since last we met in annual communication we have been called upon to deplore the loss by death of many who have been endeared to us by close association and because of their virtues. Among those who may properly be mentioned separately are: R. W. Bros. David Collins, of Kincardine; Francis Richardson, of Toronto; Wm. Waddington, of Kingston; G. H. F. Dartnell, of Whitby; W. L. Hamilton, of Belleville, and E. G. Wells, of Simcoe, Past District Deputy Grand Masters; R. W. Bro. John W. Murton, of Hamilton, Past Grand Senior Warden; L. A. Congdon, of Dunnville, Grand Registrar; V. W. Bros. John McCarter, of North Toronto, Past Grand Pursuivant; F. Rowland, of Kingston, P. G. S. of W.; C. McDonald, of Tilsonburg, Grand Steward; B. J. Freer, of Minden, and W. B. Hall, of Princeton, Past Grand Stewards, and W. Bros. McPherson, of Bothwell, J. M. Munroe, of Almonte; J. Smeaton and W. H. Timbers, of Ottawa, and C. W. Davis, of London; and there are many others "whose names are duly recorded."

The greatest of all the pagan philosophers held death in itself to be a blessing greatly to be desired, and an event which, notwithstanding some natural shrinkings of the flesh, we ought to contemplate with serenity and approach with confidence. For, he said, as sleep is the most blessed of all the benefactions to man, and as sleep is but partial and temporary death, what must be the perfect realization of that condition which gives final rest to the o'rlabored faculties and puts a period to the sorrows of life? And he proceeded to argue that if death is nothingness, and a final ending of existence, then it is to be desired because it liberates us from the miseries of life; and if it is not utter extinction, then it is still more to be desired, because it raises virtuous men to companionship with the immortal gods.

If a heathen could so comfort himself in view of his approaching dissolution, how much more should we, who fondly think we have a better hope, look upon death as a benefactor? For we do not believe it to be final, nor the sleep of the grave eternal.

Not to dwell here upon the promise of revelation and the teachings of the Christian religion, which most Masons profess, we may point to the great lessons of our oft-taught mysteries, enfolding the truth, which we doubt not, that he who puts off the vesture of the flesh shall continue in another state of existence, and, if his earthly life has been virtuous, we do not doubt that that existence will be one of unspeakable felicity. This faith we hold concerning those of our brethren who, having finished their work here, have been summoned hence. We mourn their loss, for such is the constitution of our nature that we grieve when that which is pleasant to us is taken away. We sorrow because princes in Israel have fallen, and strong hands have been taken from the work which is to do. Yet in our sorrow we find consolation, because our departed brethren have finished their work and entered upon their everlasting rest; because they have set an example to the profit of others, and because we have joy in thinking of the pleasant hours we have spent in their company. Their monu-

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ment is the love of their brethren, and we know full well that "not marble nor the gilded monuments of princes" shall outlive the memories of those who have diffused knowledge and lessened the pangs of misery in the world. The place where they sleep is consecrated ground; for, while temples crumble, and the sculptured memorials of the world's great captains fall to decay, the resting places of the virtuous dead become holier with the long lapse of the vanishing years. Therefore, though we sorrow at our bereavement, we reverently thank God that these our brethren, who have been taken away from us, have lived and that the world is better because they had lived.

Faternally submitted.

A. T. FREED.

Chairman Sub-committee on Fraternal Dead.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, when it was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be received and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

Procedure re Expulsion:

It was moved by R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That clause 22 of the Book of Constitution be amended by the addition of the following:

"It is further provided that power be given to the Grand Master to authorize the Grand Secretary to summon every brother reported and recommended for expulsion by his private lodge, to appear before the sub-committee of the board which meets at the same time as the annual communication of Grand Lodge next following the action of the private lodge.

PRESENT FROM ROYAL SOLOMON MOTHER
LODGE, 293.

The Grand Secretary, on behalf of R. W. Bro. W. Jaques, of Jarvis, handed over to Grand Lodge three gavels, which R. W. Bro. Jaques had received when in Jerusalem recently, from the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, for presentation to the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to make suitable acknowledgment.

CALLED OFF.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Thursday, 20th July, at 10 o'clock forenoon.

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 20th July, A. D. 1899.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 10 a.m.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on the Throne.
Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives of this Grand Lodge beg to report that there are 361 warranted lodges on the grand register; 176 are represented by their duly qualified officers; 111 are represented by proxy; 10 are not represented by proxy but have Past Masters present; 64 are unrepresented in any way. There are 601 names registered, having a total of 1,177 votes.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM ROAF,
P. W. D. BRODRICK,
LOCKBURN B. SCOTT,

Committee.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, seconded by R. W. Bro. P. W. D. Brodrick, and

Resolved, That the Supplementary Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The board have given respectful consideration to the subjects referred to in the address of the M. W. the G. M.

The object of the reference of this address to the board is understood to be to ensure the carrying into effect, so far as the board may deem it possible or prudent, of any suggestions or recommendations made by the Grand Master, or the remedying of any defects or abuses in connection with the administration of matters, in which the Grand Lodge has jurisdiction, which may have come under his observation and which he regards of sufficient importance to deserve notice in his address.

Fortunately the tone of the address throughout is of the most cheerful character, and it contains but little matter which calls forth action on the part of the board.

The board have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the ability, zeal and earnestness displayed by the Grand Master in the performance during the past year of the duties attached to his important position. The address shows that he has been active in visiting different parts of the jurisdiction and performing those functions which our constitution and usages have assigned to him as his prerogative. While it cannot be expected that a Grand Master should usurp the functions of a D. D. G. M. as regards the visiting of lodges, it is desirable and tends greatly to the welfare of the craft that he should visit important centers. These visits are fully appreciated by the brethren and have a most useful and stimulating effect upon the lodges.

Apart from the acknowledgment made by the G. M. of the assistance given him by the R. W. the Deputy G. M., the board are fully acquainted with his desires to express its appreciation of the great ability of that officer. The Grand Master is fortunate in having as his right hand man a brother so well qualified for the position, so earnest and zealous, and so popular with the brethren as R. W. Bro. Hungerford. More it might not be prudent to say.

In connection with the subject of the brethren who have died during the past year, the Grand Master deploras the neglect of the duty of attending the funerals of deceased brethren. It is hoped that the dereliction of duty referred to is not general. At any rate, the words of the Grand Master cannot fail to call the attention of brethren to the brotherly relations between each other, and to the propriety of paying in some

manner that respect to our deceased brethren which we would pay to a member of our family. In connection with this subject the board would suggest that the funeral service presented by Grand Lodge should receive careful revision. This would not be the place to record or consider the objections which have been and are constantly being made to the present form of ceremony. These objections are numerous, and it would be well in the opinion of the board that the service should be revised by a committee of brethren qualified to undertake that duty.

The board are happy to be able to join with the Grand Master in his expressions of satisfaction at the present prosperous condition of the craft throughout the jurisdiction. This prosperity is undoubtedly largely due to the admirable manner in which the D.D.G.M's. perform the duties of their offices. Their fidelity in the discharge of their trust and their zeal and self-denial have repeatedly elicited high praise from the authorities of the most intelligent foreign Masonic bodies. It is our duty distinctly to recognize, as the Grand Master has done, our obligations to the D. D. G. M's, and to give them at least the assurance that their services are fully appreciated by Grand Lodge. The private lodges can manifest appreciation of the service rendered them by complying with the request made by Grand Lodge that the expenses of the D. D. G. M's. visits should be paid by those lodges which are in a position to pay them.

The M. W. the Grand Master refers to the position of brethren who have been suspended for non-payment of dues, and suggests that they should be dealt with in a charitable and liberal spirit. A reader of the Grand Master's address not acquainted with the provisions of our constitution on this subject might infer that undue hardship was exercised towards brethren in default for non-payment of dues. The board, while concurring in the expression of regret by the Grand Master that so many brethren should be in a state of suspension for non-payment of dues, cannot attribute this unfortunate state of affairs to any defect in our present system, which is based upon the experience of many years. The cases must surely be rare in which brethren cannot pay the small fees annually attached to lodge membership, and the lodges have power to remit the dues of any brother who is too poor to pay them. Surely under these circumstances the fault must be with the defaulting brother. It is well known that many brethren quite able to pay their dues submit to suspension with apparent indifference. Such lukewarm brethren are of no advantage to the lodge. A man who is able to pay his dues and does not pay them says in the most distinct way that he thinks the advantages not worth the money they cost. Pity or compassion is due to such a man only for his sad state of indifference.

The M. W. the Grand Master alludes in his address to the subject of the abuse of the ballot. This abuse is very much to be regretted, but it is an incident inseparable from the use of the ballot. Many brethren seem to think that the prosperity of a lodge is to be measured by the number of its ini-

tations and the amount of fees which it takes in. Nemesis usually arrives in the case of such lodges in the form of brethren who have been, but never should have been, admitted, whose propensity for evil finds expression in indiscriminate blackballing. The board are of opinion that sufficient care is not exercised in the admission of candidates to lodges, and that prosperity in the form already alluded to may be too dearly purchased. Several remedies have been suggested to meet the evil of indiscriminate blackballing, particularly a relaxation of the restrictions now connected with the ballot. These suggestions, however, have not been favorably accepted by the craft, and it is evident that the present restrictions must continue. Care in the admission of candidates and the exercise of patience, forbearance and the spirit of brotherly love can alone cure this evil.

The board heartily endorse the encomiums bestowed by the Grand Master on M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson in connection with the History of Freemasonry shortly to be published, and feel confident that his enterprise will meet with that success which his zeal, energy and industry entitle it.

The board concur with the Grand Master in his regret respecting the representation of foreign Grand Lodges near our Grand Lodge. It would be well that these honors should be distributed, but a foreign Grand Lodge has the right to select its own representative, and though this is usually done on the recommendation of our Grand Master, it is difficult to see how this right could be properly interfered with.

Referring to the subject of decisions contained in the Grand Master's address, the board would remark—

1. That it seems clear that the constitution does not authorize the master of a lodge to pass the ballot more than twice. (See constitution.)

2. That without attempting to lay down any rule of law upon the subject the board concur with the Grand Master as to the impropriety of allowing a discussion on the merits or qualifications of a candidate after the ballot has once been passed.

The board agree with the M. W. the Grand Master in his opinion that two candidates should not be initiated at the same time.

The board also concur in the 3rd, 4th and 5th recommendations and decisions contained in the address.

The board are of opinion that our Grand Lodge should be represented at the ceremonies attending the centenary of the death of George Washington. All the Grand Lodges of the United States will be represented on that occasion, and our Grand Master, with his grand officers, have received an invitation to be present. The board would suggest that the deputation consist of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and that their expenses be paid out of the funds of Grand Lodge.

The board have much pleasure in testifying to the satisfactory manner in which the permanent officers of Grand Lodge have performed their duties. R. W. Bro. Mason, the Grand Secretary, has completed 25 years of service, and it is hardly necessary to say to Grand Lodge that his popularity has increased year by year. The board desire heartily to congratulate Brother Mason on his success in winning the affection of

his brethren, while, at the same time, performing his duties strictly and without fear or favor. A man who does his duty properly and yet retains the friendship of all is rarely met with. The board would suggest the presentation to R. W. Bro. Mason of some token of Grand Lodge's appreciation of his quarter of a century's services, and the appointment of a committee for that purpose.

Fraternally submitted,

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-committee on Grand Master's Address.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved, That the report of the board on the address of the M. W. the Grand Master be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, and upon their report, the following were declared duly elected as office bearers for the ensuing term, namely:

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Toronto, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, Ottawa, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. Bro. J. R. Stuart, Stratford, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Robert Campbell, D. D., Renfrew, Grand Chaplain.

M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis, Hamilton, Grand Registrar.

R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge.

W. Bro. John Robertson, London, Grand Tyler.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Lindsay.

R. W. Bro. William Roaf, Toronto.

R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt, Pembroke.

R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Barrie.

R. W. Bro. George S. May, Ottawa.

Subsequently the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments on the board for the ensuing term, namely:

R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, Kingston.
 R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn, Hamilton.
 R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, Toronto.
 R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, M. D., Leamington.
 R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, Peterborough.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of lodges as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts, and were appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master, viz.:

R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop, Wardsville, Erie District, No. 1.
 R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Wyoming, St. Clair District, No. 2.
 R. W. Bro. Geo. F. Morris, London, London District, No. 3.
 R. W. Bro. John H. Reid, Seaforth, South Huron Dis., No. 4.
 R. W. Bro. Geo. Landerkin, M. D., Hanover, North Huron District, No. 5.
 R. W. Bro. A. W. Cryslar, Delhi, Wilson District, No. 6.
 R. W. Bro. Edward Burns, Elora, Wellington District No. 7.
 R. W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw, Dundas, Hamilton Dis., No. 8.
 R. W. Bro. F. D. Kent, M. D., Thornbury, Georgian Dis., No. 9.
 R. W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Welland, Niagara District, No. 10.
 R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, Toronto, Toronto West Dis., No. 11.
 R. W. Bro. F. G. Inwood, Toronto, Toronto East District, No. 11a.
 R. W. Bro. John M. Shaw, M. D., Keene, Ontario Dis., No. 12.
 R. W. Bro. W. Latimer, Belleville, P. Edward Dis., No. 13.
 R. W. Bro. Abraham Shaw, Kingston, Frontenac Dis., No. 14.
 R. W. Bro. R. W. Watchorn, Merrickville, St. Lawrence District, No. 15.
 R. W. Bro. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew, Ottawa Dis., No. 16.
 R. W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, Port Arthur, Algoma Dis., No. 17.
 R. W. Bro. J. N. Shearer, Huntsville, Nipissing Dis., No. 18.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

Public Processions.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. McKnight, seconded by R. W. Bro. James McLaughlan, and

Resolved, That clause 250 of the Book of Constitution be rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"No public procession of the brethren as Masons, clothed in any of the regalia of the craft, except a Masonic funeral, shall on any pretense be allowed, or take place, without the permission of the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand

Master. The proceedings at any procession, including a funeral, which may be attended by the brethren, shall be immediately reported by the Master or Masters of the lodges taking part therein to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary, and to the District Deputy Grand Masters of the districts in which the lodges are respectively situated.

The Antient Charges.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. McKnight, seconded by W. Bro. Wilbee, and

Resolved, That clause 13 of the "Antient Charges" in the Book of Constitution be amended by adding thereto the words "except a Masonic funeral."

Gravenhurst Sanitarium.

It was moved by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That it be referred to a committee to examine into and report upon a proposal to devote a part of the asylum fund to the establishment of a cottage at the Gravenhurst Home for Consumptives, and to frame regulations for the government of the cottage if established; and that the committee, consist of the M. W., the Grand Master, the M. W. the Grand Treasurer, M. W. Bros. R. T. Walkem, J. K. Kerr, J. Ross Robertson, William Gibson and Kivas Tully, and R. W. Bros. R. B. Hungerford, J. E. Harding and the mover.

Masonry in Canada, by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That five copies of M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson's History of Masonry in Canada be purchased for the Grand Lodge library.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

It was decided upon ballot that the next annual communication of Grand Lodge should be held at the city of London.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, seconded by M. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, and

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee on Credentials and Scrutineers of Ballot for their valuable and efficient services.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Glanville, and

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee of Management of the Ottawa lodges for the satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present annual communication.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, assisted by M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and A. A. Stevenson, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly-elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M.W. the Grand Master was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz :

V. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, M. P., Toronto, Grand Senior Deacon.

“ E. T. Essery, London, Grand Junior Deacon.

“ C. H. Witthum, Hepworth, Grand Superintendent of Works.

“ John Nicolle, Kingston, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

“ Alfred Jones, West Flamboro, Assistant Grand Secretary.

“ Frederick Millman, Woodstock, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

“ N. W. Cleary, Renfrew, Grand Sword Bearer.

“ J. W. Hart, M. D., Huntsville, Grand Organist.

“ J. J. Farley, Belleville, Assistant Grand Organist.

“ James P. Boles, Ingersoll, Grand Pursuivant.

“ J. E. Biddle, Port Rowan, Grand Steward.

“ D. H. Currie, Rat Portage, Grand Steward.

“ R. J. Munro, Lakefield, Grand Steward.

“ H. H. Wells, Prescott, Grand Steward.

“ N. Shafley, Wellandport, Grand Steward.

- V. W. Bro. James McFarlane, Toronto, Grand Steward.
“ W. J. Hallett, Barrie, Grand Stewart.
“ F. Holwell, Baden, Grand Steward.
“ John Anderson, Camlachie, Grand Steward.
“ E. Aitchison, Wardsville, Grand Steward.
“ Thomas Shaw, Hespeler, Grand Steward.
“ E. M. Carleton, Toronto, Grand Steward.
“ John Parsell, Norway, Grand Standard
Bearer.
“ W. C. Fitzgerald, London, Grand Standard
Bearer.

THE GRAND LODGE CLOSED.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed at 3.45 o'clock p. m., in ample form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.



RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT JUNE 24TH, 1899, AND

Lodges marked (a) hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
2	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Andrew Ferry...	L. Campbell....
3	aThe An. St. John's	Kingston.....	1st Thursday..	Wm. B. Dalton...	John Kinghorn...
5	aSussex.....	Brackville.....	3rd Monday...	J. C. Stagg.....	Geo. K. Dewey...
6	The Barton.....	Hamilton.....	2d Monday.....	J. P. Steedman...	A. T. Freed.....
7	aUnion.....	Grimsby.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	A. C. Cole.....	W. F. Randall....
9	aUnion.....	Napanee.....	F. on or b. f. m.	W. S. Herrington	E. W. Scott.....
10	aNorfolk.....	Simcoe.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	J. G. Bottomly...	Wm. F. Kelly....
11	aMoira.....	Belleville.....	W. on or b. f. m.	W. S. Morden....	John Newton....
14	aTrue Britons.....	Perth.....	1st Monday.....	D. G. MacMartin...	W. A. Moore.....
15	St. George's.....	St. Cathar's...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. W. Wilson...	A. N. Lindsay...
16	aSt. Andrew's.....	Toronto.....	2nd Tuesday...	Henry T. Smith...	J. F. Slater.....
17	St. John's.....	Colouarg.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	John W. Bickle...	Robert Buck.....
18	aPrince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	Delos Spafford...	J. H. Murney....
20	aSt. John's.....	London.....	2nd Tuesday...	James S. Shaw...	M. D. Dawson....
21a	aSt. John's.....	Vankleek Hill...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Alex. Robertson...	J. A. Ferguson...
22	aKing Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	2d Thursday...	W. W. Glass.....	Robert Horne....
23	Richmond.....	Richm'd Hill...	M. on or b. f. m.	Ernest Coombs...	H. A. Nicholls...
24	aSt. Francis.....	Smith's Falls...	F. on or b. f. m.	Richard Craig...	J. A. Houston....
25	aIonic.....	Toronto.....	1st Tuesday...	Fred W. Harcourt	Sam' T. Bastedo
26	aOntario.....	Port Hope.....	3rd Thursday...	Rev. G. Broughall	W. J. Robertson
27	aStrict Observance	Hamilton.....	3rd Friday.....	W. Breckenridge...	Wm. C. Morton...
28	aMount Zion.....	Kemptville....	W. b. f. m.....	Richey Conn.....	W. H. Bottom....
29	aUnited.....	Brighton.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	B. C. H. Becker...	T. P. Keeler.....
30	aComposite.....	Whitby.....	1st Thursday...	John Burns.....	Jos. White.....
31	aJerusalem.....	Bowmanville...	W. on or b. f. m.	D. B. Simps. n...	Jos. Pattinson...
32	aAmity.....	Dunnville.....	W. on or a. f. m.	Geo. D. Robertson	Wm. H. Braund...
33	aMaitland.....	Goderich.....	2nd Tuesday...	Geo. Porter.....	Rosa A. Rastal...
34	aThistle.....	Amherstb'rg...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. Hobley, MD	F. M. Falls.....
35	St. John's.....	Cayuga.....	Th. on or a. f. m.	Wm. Riley.....	Ed. T. Seaton...
37	aKing Hiram.....	Ingersoll.....	1st Friday.....	Chas. A. Choate...	W. A. Woolson...
38	aTrent.....	Trenton.....	Tuesday b. f. m.	J. D. Rowe.....	Elmer E. Ingall
39	aMount Zion.....	Brooklin.....	F. on or b. f. m.	Wm. Smith.....	E. R. Eddy.....
40	aSt. John's.....	Hamilton.....	3rd Thursday...	R. A. Soumerville	W. J. McAllister.
41	aSt. George's.....	Kingsville....	Th. on or b. f. m.	Prosper D. White	Geo. Rumble....
42	aSt. George's.....	London.....	1st Wedn. day...	M. W. Althouse...	A. Ellis.....
43	King Solomon's.....	Woodstock.....	1st Tuesday...	J. J. Watt.....	A. McGachie....
44	aSt. Thomas.....	St. Thomas.....	1st Thursday...	Henry Roe.....	L. Slater.....
45	Brant.....	Brantford.....	2nd Tuesday...	Josh. Broadbent...	S. F. Passmore...
46	aWellington.....	Chatham.....	1st Monday.....	J. R. Battisby...	Alex. Gregory...
47	aGreat Western.....	Windsor.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	David L. Carley...	I. P. McConnell...
48	aMadoc.....	Madoc.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Chas. H. Tumelty,	R. T. Gray.....
50	aConsecon.....	Consecon.....	F. on or b. f. m.	D. H. Rowe.....	Wm. Bowen.....
52	aDalhousie.....	Ottawa.....	1st Tuesday...	Jas. Panington...	C. S. Scott.....
54	aVaughan.....	Maple.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Nathaniel Shunk...	E. ton Sisley...
55	aMerrickville.....	Merrickville...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	James E. Angus...	G. B. Magee....
56	aVictoria.....	Sarnia.....	1st Tuesday...	W. F. B. Colter...	F. C. Watson....
57	aHarmony.....	Binbrook.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Geo. Lang.....	J. F. Senn.....
58	aDoric.....	Ottawa.....	1st Friday.....	J. A. Armstrong...	J. F. Argue.....
61	aAcacia.....	Hamilton.....	2nd Friday.....	S. A. Morgan.....	Fred. H. Yapp...
62	aSt. Andrew's.....	Caledon's.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Chas. E. Donaghy...	John Thompson...
63	aSt. John's.....	Carleton Place	2d Wednesday...	A. S. Gorrell, M. D.	A. T. Hudson....
64	aKilwinning.....	London.....	3rd Thursday...	N. W. Scandrett...	John Overell...
65	aRehoboth.....	Toronto.....	1st Thursday...	David Hoskins...	Wm. Crichton...
66	aDurham.....	Newcastle.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	A. Farncomb.....	E. Simmons.....
68	aSt. John's.....	Ingersoll.....	3rd Friday.....	Alex. Rose.....	Thomas Duggan...
69	aStirling.....	Stirling.....	Th. after f. m.	W. Broadman.....	Geo. Bailey.....
72	Alma.....	Galt.....	Last Tues. day	Robert Hunter...	Andrew J. Oliver
73	aSt. James.....	St. Marys.....	1st Monday.....	Jno. G. Constable	A. Carmichael
74	aSt. James.....	Bethel.....	M. nearest f. m.	Robert Edwards...	Syrenus Cole....
75	aSt. John's.....	Toronto.....	1st Monday...	Marin Levery.....	H. S. King.....
76	aOxford.....	Woodstock.....	2d Monday.....	Rev. J. C. Farthing	Robt. Anderson...
77	aFaithful Brethren	Lindsay.....	1st Friday.....	John J. McMahon...	R. G. Cornell....
78	aKing Hiram.....	Tilsonburg...	W. on or b. f. m.	Fred. Biette.....	L. B. C. Livingston
79	aSimcoe.....	Bradford.....	F. on or b. f. m.	Alvin Orton.....	Burton Stoddart
81	aSt. John's.....	Mt. Brydges...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	George Lipsit...	Thomas C. West
82	St. John's.....	Paris.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Frank Hammond...	W. Barrowclough

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, OTTAWA, 5899. 327

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1898.
the Evangelist; all others on that St. John the Baptist.

N ^o of Lodge	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total M ^{em} 's	Last Ret ^{ns}	Ledger.		Paid. Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal	Cr. Bal	
2	1	1	1	1	1	2					41	June '99			\$ 26 50
3	4	2	6	1	1	5	1				138	"			92 21
4	4	6	6	1	1	1	1				152	"			84 50
5	6	6	10	13		14	9				318	"	\$149 25		160 00
6	10	6	10	13		14	9				55	"	\$ 50		37 00
7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				77	"	29 00		77 50
8	1	2	5	2	2	8	2				95	"	51 50		60 00
9	1	2	5	2	2	8	2				162	"		1 00	140 25
10	4	3	3	3	1	1	1				47	"			55 25
11	18	15	16	2	1	7	1	3			29	"			85 75
12	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	3			225	"			148 50
13	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4			70	"			37 00
14	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4			182	"			117 00
15	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4			170	"			117 75
16	14	11	10	3	1	1	1	4			43	"			23 50
17	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	4			192	"	3 00		67 75
18	11	10	13	2	3	5	4				30	"			30 75
19	11	10	13	2	3	5	4				90	"			71 00
20	11	10	13	2	3	5	4				222	"			117 00
21	11	10	13	2	3	5	4				91	"			72 75
22	13	13	15	2	2	1	1	2			271	"	1 50		161 00
23	13	13	15	2	2	1	1	2			30	"			14 75
24	16	10	7	8	5	1	1	1			77	"			50 50
25	16	10	7	8	5	1	1	1			68	"			36 00
26	10	7	8	5	1	1	1	1			61	"			44 75
27	7	7	8	5	1	1	1	1			111	"	2 00		67 75
28	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1			47	"			70 75
29	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1			80	"			34 50
30	5	5	5	3	3	1	1	1			70	"			71 75
31	14	10	10	4	4	3	3	2			131	"			41 50
32	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2			163	"			50 50
33	9	8	8	6	1	1	1	1			27	"			232 25
34	4	4	4	4	2	1	1	3			82	"			54 00
35	6	6	6	6	2	4	3	4			111	Dec. '98			1 50
36	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			90	June '99			146 75
37	10	10	10	8	1	1	1	5			152	"			113 25
38	6	6	6	6	2	4	3	4			128	"	29 25		77 75
39	6	6	6	6	2	4	3	4			131	Dec. '97			84 75
40	12	12	12	10	4	3	3	3			163	June '99	1 00		127 75
41	11	11	11	11	6	1	1	1			84	Dec. '98			104 00
42	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2			34	"			20 25
43	10	10	10	8	1	1	1	1			121	June '99			105 00
44	9	9	9	8	5	5	2	3			34	"			21 00
45	10	10	10	8	5	5	2	3			56	"			52 25
46	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2			91	"			79 25
47	10	10	10	8	5	5	2	3			55	"	17 75		22 00
48	5	4	4	4	2	1	1	1			96	"			117 75
49	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2			257	"			170 00
50	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2			38	"	9 50		20 25
51	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			100	"			57 50
52	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2			145	Dec. '98			17 00
53	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			232	June '99	2 00		144 00
54	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			29	Dec. '98			15 50
55	7	5	5	1	1	1	1	1			75	June '99			19 75
56	11	15	15	1	1	1	1	1			49	"			30 00
57	8	8	8	7	1	1	1	1			90	"			47 50
58	3	4	4	4	1	1	1	1			65	"			40 25
59	17	16	14	2	6	2	3	5			106	"			214 75
60	4	4	4	2	1	1	1	1			87	"			72 00
61	9	8	8	4	1	1	1	1			114	"	2 50		49 00
62	7	7	7	2	1	1	1	1			34	"			84 50
63	11	11	11	6	1	1	1	1			52	"			20 75
64	7	5	5	2	2	2	2	2			48	"			29 75
65	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			28 75
66	7	5	5	2	2	2	2	2				"			
67	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
68	7	5	5	2	2	2	2	2				"			
69	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
70	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
71	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
72	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
73	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
74	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
75	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
76	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
77	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
78	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
79	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
80	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
81	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			
82	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	2				"			

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
83	a Beaver	Strathroy	F. on or a.f.m	John Robertson	R. F. Richardson
84	a Clinton	Clinton	F. on or a.f.m	W. D. Fair	W. P. Spalding
85	a Rising Sun	Athens	Th. on or b.f.m	Albt. E. Moulton	Jas Ross
86	a Wilson	Toionto	3rd Tuesday	J. J. Gee, M. D.	J. W. Siddall
87	a Markham Union	Markham	F. on or b.f.m	J. B. Gould	B. A. Mason
88	a St. George's	Owen Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Don'd McKie	John Rutherford
89	a Manito	Collingwood	W. on or a.f.m	Daniel Wilson	T. H. White
90	a Colborne	Colborne	F. on or b.f.m	W. Ballamy	Geo. Keyes
92	a Cataract	Kingston	2d Wednesday	John Gordon	Robt. Hendry, Jr
93	a Northern Light	Kincardine	1st Wednesday	J. H. Scott	R. D. Hall
94	a St. Mark's	Port Stanley	2d Tuesday	W. H. Farr	L. Mothersill, M.D
96	a Corinthian	Barrie	1st Thursday	Alex. Cowan	Alfred Wilkes
97	a Sharon	Sharon	Tu. on or b.f.m	Richard Breckon	P. F. Pearson, M.D
98	a True Blue	Bolton	F. on or b.f.m	G. A. Norton	Robt. Roberts
99	a Tuscan	Newmarket	2d Wednesday	Alfred Webb	C. H. Lloyd
100	a Valley	Dundas	M. on or b.f.m	G. C. Wilson	D. McMillan
101	a Corinthian	Peterboro	W. on or b.f.m	F. D. MacKay	M. A. Morrison
103	a Maple Leaf	S. Catharines	Last Thursday	H. W. Hodgins	H. J. Johnston
104	a St. John's	Norwich	W. on or a.f.m	Robert Gray	G. W. Poldon
105	a St. Mark's	N. Falls St.	Tu. on or b.f.m	J. C. Hull	W. D. Garner
106	a Burford	Burford	W. on or b.f.m	David Secord	C. H. Pratt
107	a St. Paul's	Lambeth	W. on or b.f.m	John Kelly	H. Poole
108	a Blenheim	Princeton	F. on or a.f.m	Thos S. Telfer	A. R. Hirston
109	a Albion	Har'ow Smith	F. on or b.f.m	A. Lockhart, M.D	James Cooke
110	a Central	Prescott	1st Tuesday	T. J. McClellan	H. H. Wells
113	a Wilson	Waterford	W. on or b.f.m	D. S. Bale	E. G. Christie
114	a Hope	Port Hope	1st Friday	J. B. White	W. G. Coulter
115	a Ivy	Beamsville	Tu. on or b.f.m	John Gibson	F. S. Prudhomme
116	a Cassia	Thedford	M. on or b.f.m	Caleb Kennedy	T. K. Polk
118	a Union	Schomberg	M. on or b.f.m	Alex. Wilkinson	W. J. Brereton
119	a Maple Leaf	Bath	M. before f.m	Jos. Morgan	F. W. Arms rong
121	a Warren	Fingal	Tu. on or b.f.m	Frank R. Else	Leonard J. Else.
121	a Doric	Brantford	3rd Friday	W. H. Inglis	John S. Gray
122	a Renfrew	Renfrew	1st Monday	D. A. Ward	James Reid
123	a The Belleville	Belleville	1st Thursday	J. W. Johnson	W. H. Adams
125	a Cornwall	Cornwall	1st Tuesday	Jno. G. Harkness	A. E. McLean
126	a Golden Rule	Cam'bellford	F. on or b.f.m	G. Redford, Jr.	Geo. L. Di ken
127	a Frank	Frankford	M. before f.m	G. o. A. Rose	Chester W. Clarke
128	a Pembroke	Pembroke	1st Thursday	John Bodell	Ralph Ross
129	a The Rising Sun	Aurora	1st Friday	W. J. Stevenson	D. A. Radcliffe
131	a St. Lawrence	Southam'ton	Tu. on or a.f.m	F. H. Lee	C. R. Vanstone
133	a Lebanon Forest	Exeter	M. on or b.f.m	Jas. A. Stewart	C. H. Sande's
135	a St. Clair	Milton	Th. on or b.f.m	M. McCrimmon	R. Coats
136	a Richardson	Stouffville	W. on or b.f.m	D. C. Smith	Rev. S. Lawrence
137	a Pythagoras	Meaford	F. nearest f.m	L. F. Boyd	J. Patterson
139	a Lebanon	Oshawa	2nd Tuesday	Wm. Dickie	Jas. McCaw
140	a Malahide	Aylmer	W. on or b.f.m	R. G. Moore	C. F. Burdick
141	a Tudor	Mitchell	Tu. on or b.f.m	H. S. Anderson	Wm. Babb
142	a Excelsior	Morrisburg	F. on or b.f.m	W. K. Farlinger	John Warren
143	a Friendly Brothers	Iroquois	Wednes' b.f.m	Wm. E. Fisher	D. Fink
144	a Tecumseh	Stratford	3rd Friday	R. T. Harding	Wm. E. Brooker
145	a J. B. Hall	Millbrook	2d Thursday	A. A. Smith	R. J. Doak
146	a Prince of Wales	Newburgh	Wednes' b.f.m	Robert Guy	G. A. Aylesworth
147	a Mississippi	Almonte	1st Friday	John Argue	Robt. Pol'ock
148	a Civil Service	Ottawa	2d Tuesday	L. B. Scott	W. J. Beatty
149	a Erie	Port Dover	M. on or b.f.m	S. L. Butler	J. Varey
151	a The Grand River	Berlin	2d Tuesday	K. Von Pirch	A. B. Campbell
153	a Burns	Wyoming	Th. on or b.f.m	Robert Hart	J. M. Wilson
154	a Irving	Lucan	Th. on or b.f.m	Math. Thompson	Wm. Matheson
155	a Peterboro'	Peterboro'	1st Friday	W. E. Conway	R. W. McFadden
156	a York	N. Toronto	3rd Friday	W. E. Hoffman	T. N. Armstrong
157	a Simpson	Newboro'	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. G. Dargavel	Josh H. Butler
158	a Alexandra	Oil Springs	Thurs'day f.m	A. W. Parks	W. S. Duggnn
159	a Goodwood	Richmond	W. on or b.f.m	Clarke Craig	H. Reily
161	a Percy	Warkworth	Wednes' b.f.m	I. Humphries	J. W. Baker
162	a Forest	Wroxeter	M. on or b.f.m	Thomas Brown	Thos. Gibson, Jr

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCE AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

N. of Lodges	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total M'mb's	Last et'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal	Cr. Bal	
83			1	2	1		3				73	Jun			42 50
84	6	8	1	2	4	1	1			1	62	"			36 25
85	4	3	2	2	2	1	1	3			57	"			
86	19	21	13	4	1	1			1		172	"	53 50		140 50
87	3	2	2							1	33	"	3 00		26 00
88	2	3	4	1	1	2	9			2	72	"			20 75
90	6	5	5	1							116	"		2 00	78 00
91	4	5	4	3	1	2	2			2	83	"			50 50
92	6	5	5		2	2	2			1	109	"	2 50		159 00
93	2	1	1	2	3	4	2			2	69	"			57 50
94	3	2	2			2	2			2	28	"	38 75		20 00
96	9	10	12	6	2	1	3				140	"		5 00	106 50
97	1	2	1	2							48	"			37 25
98	3	3	2	2	3		5			1	42	"			27 00
99	5	5	5			1	1				47	Dec. '98			92 25
100	1	2			3						71	June '99			44 75
101	13	11	11	2	2	1					86	"			64 00
103	5	4	3	3	1	1	9			1	108	"			66 50
104	3	4	2			1	1			1	78	"			20 00
105	1	1	1			1		1			68	"		4 00	22 00
106	1	1	1		3	1	2	1			66	"			45 00
107	2	2	2		5						51	"	12 75		13 00
108	1			2		1	2				25	"			13 00
109	4	2		1		1					55	"			39 75
110	3	5		2	1	1	4				90	"			72 00
113	9	9	9	2	3					2	67	"			58 25
114	3	3	3	1	1	1					81	"			22 25
115	7	7	5			1					78	"			53 75
116	1	1	1		1		2				32	"			18 25
118											23	"			11 50
119	2		3	1	1						27	"			19 75
120	2	1	1	1	1						33	"			21 00
121	25	21	18	8	2	2	3				172	"			130 50
122	1	1	2	1		1	1				100	"			64 00
123	10	8	9	1	2	2	6				137	"			62 50
125	3	1	1	2			3				72	"			68 00
126	2	2	2		1	1	1				34	"			24 25
127	3	2	2	1	2		3			1	66	"	39 75		27 00
128	11	10	13	1	1	1					125	"		5 00	109 50
129	8	5	5		8						52	"	30 50		29 00
131	3	3	3							1	38	"			27 50
133	4	4	3		1	1					67	"			50 25
135	5	6	8		7	1	2			3	54	"	41 00		77 50
136	2	2	2	1	2						35	"			18 50
137	4	1	1	2		1					49	Dec. '98			41 00
139	3	2	2	1	4	2				1	64	"			59 50
140	4	6	8		6	1	1				82	June '99			96 75
141	2	1	1	1		1				1	44	Dec. '98	2 50		130 00
142	1	1			1	1	3				74	June '99			101 00
143	8	8	8	1	2	5				3	70	Dec. '98			65 50
144	5	1	1		6	2	4			1	110	June '99			89 35
145	4	3	1	2	1		3				49	"			24 25
146	3	3	3	3		2					46	"			41 00
147	4	4	4	1	2	1					68	Dec. '98	1 25		56 50
148	5	5	6	2	4	1	2				75	"			21 00
149	3	2	2								53	"	1 50		63 25
151	4	5	6		2	1					92	June '99			41 00
153	5	4	4								69	"	23 50		29 00
154	8	7	5	2	5	2	9			5	51	"			76 75
155	11	10	10	1	2	1					109	"			57 25
156	4	3	3	1	4	3	5				83	"	22 00		40 00
157	1				8	1				1	52	"			36 75
158	8	7	6		1		1				55	"			
159	1	3	2			1					64	"	108 50		45 00
161	1	1	1								52	Dec. '98		2 00	23 50
162	6	6	5				2				28	June '99			

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting	W. Master.	Secretary.
164	aStar in the East	Wellington	Tu.on or b.f.m	F. I. E. McDonald	J. D. Wilson
165	aBurlington	Burlington	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. Ferguson	B. S. Hicks
166	aWentworth	Stoney Creek	M. on or b.f.m	J. C. Springstead	R. H. Dewar
168	aMerritt	Welland	M. on or b.f.m	A. F. Forster	Geo. Wells
169	aMacnab	Pt. Colborne	Tu.on or b.f.m	Richd. Matthews	John Cook
170	aBritannia	Seaforth	1st Monday	R. E. Jackson	J. O. Rose
171	aPrince of Wales	Lawrence St'n	F. on or a.f.m	John A. McIntyre	S. H. Weidon
172	aAyr	Ayr	Tu.on or b.f.m	Jas. Cassie	A. J. Reid
174	aWalsingham	Port Rowan	Th.on or b.f.m	E. Meek, M. D	Jas. Ryan
177	The Builders	Ottawa	2d Friday	W. J. Sykes	H. H. Cairns
178	aPlattsville	Plattsville	F. on or b.f.m	W. I.ter Joyce	W. R. Henderson
180	aSpeed	Guelph	1st Tuesday	W. G. Stephenson	Wm. Parker
181	aOriental	Port Burwell	Tu.on or b.f.m	S. T. Logan	D. M. Chute
184	aOld Light	Lucknow	Th.on or b.f.m	John D. Nichol	Harry Days
185	aEnniskillen	York	M. on or b.f.m	Joseph Peart	Rev. C. Scudamore
186	aPlantagenet	Plantagenet	M. on or b.f.m	F. L. Switzer, M.D	W. A. Chamberlain
190	Belmont	Belmont	F. on or b.f.m	John Boy 1	Jas. McMillan
192	aOrillia	Orillia	F. on or b.f.m	W. H. Tudhope	J. W. Ellis
193	aScotland	Scotland	M. on or b.f.m	E. G. Malcolm	J. A. Messacar
194	aPetrolia	Petrolia	2d Wednesday	W. D. Burgess	C. R. Simpson
195	aThe Tuscan	London	1st Monday	W. A. Young	P. W. D. Roderick
196	aMadawaska	Arnprior	2d Monday	Geo. Richman	Neil Campbell
197	aSaugeen	Walkerton	2d Tuesday	David Traill	H. B. McKay
200	St. Alban's	Mount Forest	F. on or b.f.m	Jas. A. Young	R. O. Kilgour
201	aLeeds	Gananoque	Tu.on or b.f.m	John Kee	W. Y. Boyd
203	Irvine	Elora	3rd Friday	Nor. MacMurchy	Thos. Godfrey
205	New Dominion	N. Hamburg	M. on or a.f.m	S. G. Holley	A. Fraser
207	aLancaster	Lancaster	W. on or b.f.m	A. D. Cameron	W. N. McGillis
209a	St. John's	London	1st Friday	A. W. White	T. A. Rowat
209	Evergreen	Lanark	1st Tuesday	Chris. Forbes	W. A. Fields
212	aElysian	Garn Island	1st Monday	John Kenned	R. Raymond
215	Lake	Ameliasburg	F. on or b.f.m	T. S. Farmcomb	Geo. E. Roblin
216	aHarris	Orangeville	Tu.on or b.f.m	Geo. J. Brett	D. McPherson
217	aFrederick	Delhi	M. on or b.f.m	R. B. Wells, M. D.	W. W. Cryslar
218	aStevenson	Toronto	2d Monday	Edward Egan	R. Higginsbottom
219	aCredit	Georgetown	F. on or b.f.m	Edward Finlay	T. J. Wheeler
220	aZeradatha	Uxbridge	M. on or b.f.m	J. H. O'Brien	John G. Vicars
221	aMountain	Thorold	W. on or b.f.m	R. W. Oxley	W. T. Fish
223	aMarmora	Marmora	Tuesday b.f.m	R. B. Proutt	J. A. Hubbell
223	aNorwood	Norwood	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Hutchinson	C. P. Cuffe
224	aZurich	Hensall	Th.on or b.f.m	Joseph Ellis	Jas. Bonthron
225	aBernard	Listowel	F. on or b.f.m	F. R. Blewett	J. J. Foster
228	aPrince Arthur	Odessa	M. on or a.f.m	R. L. Gilbert	Robt. Bennett
230	aIonic	Brampton	3rd Tuesday	W. H. McFadden	A. Morton
230	Kerr	Barrie	4th Monday	Fred. Marr	F. N. Lloyd
231	Lodge of Fidelity	Ottawa	3rd Thursday	Jas. A. Devitt	C. J. Pearson
232	aCameron	Dutton	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. Balkwell	R. A. Kirkland
233	aDoric	Park Hill	Tu.on or b.f.m	F. J. Hutchins	A. E. Mullin
234	aHeaver	Clarksburg	Tu.on or b.f.m	Hy. Pedwell	J. H. Dickinson
235	aAldworth	Paisley	F. on or b.f.m	G. Rathwell	W. J. Chisholm
236	aManitoba	Cookstown	Tu.on or a.f.m	W. McGowan	W. E. Stoddart
237	Vienna	Vienna	F. on or b.f.m	Benj. Br en	Geo. Thornton
238	Havelock	Watford	Tu.on or b.f.m	Thos. Harris	David Watt
239	Tweed	Tweed	F. on or b.f.m	P. T. Bowlby	C. W. Craig
242	aMacy	Mallorytown	M. on or b.f.m	J. Q. Dickey	R. W. Tennant
243	aSt George	St. George	Th.on or b.f.m	Jas. H. Fleming	G. M. McKay
245	aTecumseh	Thamesville	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. M. Horn	J. J. Vincent
247	aAshlar	Toronto	4th Tuesday	A. R. Murphy	M. B. Aylsworth
249	aCaledonian	Midland	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. T. Dudley	H. S. Ruby
250	Thistle	Embro	Th.on or b.f.m	W. J. Geddes	J. G. Anderson
253	aMinden	Kingston	1st Tuesday	John Nicolle	Thos. D. Minnes
254	Clifton	Niag. Falls	1st Thursday	F. F. Wood	Alex. Gray
255	Sydenham	Dresden	2d Thursday	Frank H. Laird	J. I. Wiley
256	ran's Point	Farran's Pt.	W. on or b.f.m	J. M. Cook	R. H. Hanes
257	aGalt	Galt	1st Tuesday	T. C. Pearce	J. W. Gilliland

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, OTTAWA, 5899. 331

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With-drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd.	Rest'd.	Total M'bs	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
164	4	2	2			1	2			1	52	Dec. '98			\$ 35 75
165	4	4	3			1	1				52	June '99			72 75
166	3	4	5			2					75	Dec. '98	\$ 1 00		63 25
168	1	1				2				4	64	June '99			49 00
169	4	4	4	1	2		1				51	Dec. '98			40 00
170	8	8	10	1	1	2					86	June '99			63 75
171	5	5	2								110				39 50
172	3	4	4				9				48	June '98	4 00		33 00
174	4	4	5							1	53	June '99			36 50
177	10	8	9	4	1						128				81 75
178	1	1	1		2		5				36				23 00
180	2	3	3	2	1	2				3	79				47 25
181				1							26	Dec. '98			13 25
184		1	1	4	2						43	June '99			29 25
185	4	4	3		2						32		11 50		53 50
186	3	4	6			1					29				29 00
190	8	8	6				1				27				36 00
192	8	5	2		4	1				4	90		48 50		76 75
193	2	3	1				7				57				33 75
194	3	2			3		3			1	88				47 00
195	7	4	3	2	4	1	2				78				44 00
196	7	7	5	2	3						83				60 25
197	3	5	6	3	2					2	49				40 50
200	4	4	4		2		1				43		20 50		24 50
201	2	4	4			1	13				62	Dec. '98			47 50
203	1	1	1	1			1				43	June '99			21 50
206							1				35	June '98		2 00	25 00
207											44				12 50
209a	8	8	8			2	8			2	162	Dec. '98		4 00	141 75
209											43	June '99			
212	7	6	5				4			3	31				15 00
215	5	6	6			7	2			2	98	Dec. '98			32 50
216	5	6	6			3					98	Dec. '98			71 00
217	1				7						38	June '99			25 50
218	33	17	12	3	3	3					184			2 00	127 75
219					1	1					54	Dec. '98	13 50		14 00
220	4	2	2				4				67	June '99			37 25
221	8	7	6	2	2	2	4			1	60				47 00
222	7	6	4	1	1						56		3 00		45 50
223	1	1	1	2	3					2	21				28 25
224				1			4				34	Dec. '98			27 00
225	7	5	4							1	63	June '99			64 25
226	1	1	2		2		1				33				21 00
229	2	2	2								71		3 00		55 50
230	7	6	5	1		1					94				76 50
231	12	14	10	5	3						96			2 50	59 50
232	1				3	2	10				26				
233	3	3	2	1	1						43				18 00
234	6	4	3	2	1	1					56				46 00
235	2	2	3		2						37				33 75
236	4	4	4			1					24	Dec. '98		6 00	29 50
237	1	1			1						35	June '99			26 00
238	6	6	5	2	1		4				63				74 50
239											52	June '98	26 50		14 00
242	3		5	1		2				1	36	June '99			23 50
243	6	6	5	1			8				45				2 25
245	1	1	3		3						51				45 50
247	11	13	18	2	4	3	3			1	166				119 25
249	7	5	7	1	1						61				41 25
250	1					1					26				16 00
253	3	4	4		2		2				71				43 25
254	6	4	3			3					92		2 00		26 00
255	1	2	3		1	2					51	Dec. '98			28 50
256	4	2	2		3	1	3				71	June '99			50 25
257	8	8	4	1	1	2				1	81				43 25

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899. AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
258	Guelph	Guelph	2d Tuesday	R. Mahony, jr	F. H. Pratt
260	Washington	Petrolia	1st Wednesday	Joseph Belasco	J. M. Hattie
261	Oak Branch	Innerkip	Th. on or b.f.m	E. W. Town	Geo. Campbell
262	Harriaton	Harriaton	2d Monday	H. R. McCullough	E. W. Lambert
263	Forest	Forest	W. on or b.f.m	A. F. Steele	P. W. Campbell
264	Chaudiere	Ottawa	4th Tuesday	D. J. McCuaig	Jas. Peterkin
265	Patterson	Thoruhill	Th. on or b.f.m	George Fisher	G. A. Langstaff
266	Northern Light	Stayner	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. J. F. Sullivan	W. A. Doner
267	Parthenon	Chatham	1st Wednesday	J. S. Morrison	Chas. R. Cape
268	Verulam	Bobcaygeon	F. on or b.f.m	W. A. Davis	R. Ventress
269	Brougham Union	Brougham	W. on or a.f.m	A. E. Major	D. R. Beaton
270	Cedar	Oshawa	4th Tuesday	F. L. Henry	L. K. Murton
271	Wellington	Erin	2d Wednesday	F. W. Royce	E. Overland, Jr.
272	Seymour	Ancaster	W. on or b.f.m	T. A. Walker	Geo. Moore
274	Kent	Blenheim	M. on or b.f.m	R. L. Gosnell	J. Crookshank
276	Teeswater	Teeswater	F. on or b.f.m	Francis P. Moore	James Gallagher
277	Seymour	P. Dalhousie	W. on or b.f.m	John L. Houston	John Gren
279	New Hope	Hespler	W. on or b.f.m	W. Keffler	John Jardine
282	Lorne	Glencoe	Th. on or b.f.m	W. J. French	Edwin Gale
283	Eureka	Helleville	W. a. f. m.	C. O. Brickman	W. J. Diamond
284	St. John's	Brussels	Tu. on or b.f.m	George Halliday	J. A. Creighton
285	Seven Star	Alliston	W. on or b.f.m	J. N. Reynolds	H. M. Wright
286	Wingham	Wingham	1st Tuesday	Joseph Golley	J. A. Morion
287	Shuniah	Port Arthur	1st Tuesday	Wm. J. Clarke	Jas. W. Morgan
289	Doric	Lobo	Th. on or b.f.m	Edward Shaw	P. L. Graham, MD
290	Leamington	Leamington	Tu. on or b.f.m	Wm. Irwin	C. H. Kenney
291	Dufferin	W. Flamboro	Th. on or b.f.m	A. C. Ross	Alfred Jones
292	Robertson	King	M. on or b.f.m	T. J. Norman	Chas. Patterson
293	T. Roy. Sol. Moth.	Jerusal'm Pa	1st Wednesday	W. H. Kayat	Kalil Saadeh, MD
294	Moore	Courtright	Th. on or b.f.m	R. G. Stewar	J. Brightwell
295	Conestogo	Drayton	Tu. on or a.f.m	E. E. Dales	Thos. Henderson
296	Temple	St. Catharin's	Last Wednes.	Jno. W. Cornwell	John Evans
297	Preston	Preston	F. on or b.f.m	George A. Ross	Jos. Baltzer
299	Victoria	Centreville	Th. on or b.f.m	W. H. Aylesworth	T. V. Anderson
300	Mount Olivet	Thorndale	Tu. on or b.f.m	Rich. Fitzgerald	M. N. Wright
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	3rd Thursday	Wm. H. Ingram	Fred. S. Lewis
303	Blyth	Blyth	Tu. on or a.f.m	D. D. Carder	Jas. M. Hamilton
304	Minerva	Stroud	Tu. on or b.f.m	E. T. McConkey	C. E. Chantier
305	Humber	Weston	W. on or b.f.m	Thos. E. Elliott	R. H. Leighton
306	Durham	Durham	Tu. on or b.f.m	John P. Telford	Geo. Russell
307	Arkona	Arkona	Th. on or b.f.m	Fred. Patterson	Fred. Neeson
309	Morning Star	Smith's Hill	W. on or b.f.m	Alex. Robertson	John Varcoe
311	Blackwood	Woodbridge	F. on or b.f.m	Frank Smith	John P. Bunt
312	Payx	Wallaceburg	M. on or b.f.m	H. Morris	E. F. Parker
313	Clement	Lakefield	1st Tuesday	Wm. M. Graham	R. Q. Dench
314	Blair	Palmerston	F. after f. m.	E. Wooldridge	J. A. Greenlaw
315	Clifford	Clifford	3rd Monday	E. Tolton	A. S. Allan
316	Doric	Toronto	3d Thursday	J. E. Cook	H. E. Griffith
318	Wilnot	Baden	F. on or a.f.m	F. Holwell	Alf. Kaufman
319	Hiram	Hagersville	Th. on or b.f.m	W. A. Fleck	Robert Wright
320	Chesterville	Chesterville	M. on or b.f.m	W. A. Brown, M.D.	J. G. Gillespie
321	Walker	Acton West	M. on or b.f.m	John Lawson	W. R. Kenney
322	North Star	Owen Sound	W. a. f. m.	R. McDowell	Wm. Coulter
323	Alvinston	Alvinston	W. on or b.f.m	J. B. Martyn, M.D.	J. B. Martyn, M.D.
324	Temple	Hamilton	2d Tuesday	Stuart Livingston	Thos. P. dier
325	Orono	Orono	Th. on or b.f.m	J. S. Robertson	Thomas Smith
326	Zetland	Toronto	4th Friday	Alex. Stewart	W. C. Eddis
327	The Hammond	Wardsville	3rd Tuesday	Lorne Glendeng	D. Johnson
328	Ionic	Napier	F. on or b.f.m	W. L. Toohill	W. H. Sutherland
329	King Solomon	Jarvis	F. on or b.f.m	James Noble	David Hill
330	Corinthian	London East	1st Tuesday	E. Blanchard	H. C. Simpson
331	Fordwich	Fordwich	Th. on or b.f.m	Fred. A. Donaghy	Adam Hutcheson
332	Stratford	Stratford	2nd Monday	R. M. Casseels	Fred. J. Scarff
333	Prince Arthur	Flesherton	F. on or b.f.m	J. A. Boyd	W. J. Ballamy
334	Prince Arthur	Arthur	Tu. on or b.f.m	E. E. Snider	Alex. Graham

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed	Raised	Joined	With drawn	Deaths	S.N. P.D.	S.U. M.C.	Exp'd	Rest'd	Total M'mbs	Last Returns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
258	2	3	5	3			3				71	June '99			\$74 50
260	2	2	2	1	1		2			2	76	"	\$38 50		1 50
261	1	1	1	1	1		1				90	"			21 50
262	5	8	7								58	"			42 75
263	6	8	7	1	1					2	71	"			47 00
264	2	4	5	1							104	June '98			42 50
265	4	1	2	1	2		1			1	29	June '99	6 75		24 00
266	2	1	1		8		2			2	26	"	1 50		1 00
267				1							59	Dec. '98			32 50
268						1					29	"			13 75
269						6					32	"	17 50		21 75
270	4	4	4			1					67	"			94 50
271	8	5	5			1					53	June '99			47 00
272	1	2	2			1					50	Dec. '98			50 25
274	5	5	3	1	1	1				5	65	June '99			87 75
276	4	5	5	1	1	1				2	24	"			17 50
277	2	2	2			8					28	Dec. '98			21 00
279	5	4	4								55	June '99			25 00
282	3	3	3	1	2						45	"			26 25
283	1	1	2		2	2					59	"		4 00	47 75
284	1	1	2	2	1		1				59	"			35 00
285	6	6	6			1					36	"			25 50
286	2	4	4		3		2				44	"			46 50
287	8	5	4		2	1	2				96	Dec. '98			73 00
289	2	2	3					1			47	June '99			21 25
290	7	8	9	1	1	1				1	105	"		6 00	83 25
291	3	3	3	1		1					49	"			34 75
292	8	9	10		2	2				1	40	"	1 00		51 25
293	8	7	8	1	4						28	Dec. '98		1 00	12 50
294	3	3	3			1	1				33	June '99			22 50
295											26	June '98	13 25		50 00
296	2	4	4		1						59	June '99			38 75
297	2	1	1			1				1	23	"			15 00
299						2					35	"	9 00		20 75
300	2	2	2								27	"	6 25		22 50
302	6	4	6	3	2	1	1			1	99	"	28 75		64 50
303	1	1	1	1	2						54	"		2 00	32 50
304	3	3	3				1				90	"			9 00
305	2	5	6	1		3	2				42	"			39 75
306	2	2	1		2	1	3				25	"	17 00		1 00
307				1	4						37	"			33 00
309	2	1	1		1	1					52	Dec. '98	2 00		45 25
311					3	1					33	"			16 75
313	1	1	2		1		8			3	79	June '99			56 50
314	5	4	4	1							42	"			27 75
314	5	5	5		1						52	"			29 00
315	1					1					28	"			16 00
316	11	10	10	4	8		4				131	"			37 75
318											33	June '98			19 50
319	4	4	3		2					1	37	June '99			35 25
320	7	10	8	1	2		1				94	"			80 75
321	2	5	6		1					1	28	"			20 50
322	7	6	7	4	3	1	17				70	"			77 25
323	4	4	5								51	"		26 00	73 25
324	11	10	10	6	1	2	4			1	246	"	68 25		104 75
325					2						29	"			15 75
326	24	23	22	10	7	2		1			294	"		4 00	224 00
327	3	3	2		2	1					22	"			15 00
328											23	June '98			17 25
329	2	2	1	1	1		3				43	June '99			28 50
330	6	4	2		3		1			1	84	"		20 00	46 00
331	3	3	2	1							29	"	4 25		30 00
332	2	3	2	1	1	1					139	"			43 00
333	8	2	1		1	1				3	88	"			28 00
334	11	6	5		3	1	1			4	42	"	23 75		8 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
336	aHighgate	Highgate	F. on or b.f.m	Henry Bailey	Geo. Kerby
337	aMyrtle	Pt. Robinson	Tu. on or b.f.m	C. B. Bennett	Thos. Sowersby
338	aDufferin	Wellandport	Tu. on or b.f.m	John E. Cohoe	D. C. Holmes
339	aOrient	Toronto	1st Tuesday	John Jones	D. J. Kelly
341	aBruce	Tiverton	Tu. on or b.f.m	J. S. Evans	W. J. Chambers
343	aGeorgina	Toronto	1st Saturday	H. T. White	W. H. Bates
344	aMerrill	Dorch'st r's'n	Th. on or b.f.m	John Sharp	W. H. Shaw
345	aNilestown	Nilestown	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. H. L. Bennett	J. McDougall
346	aThe Occident	Toronto	3d Wednesday	W. J. A. Lake	John Lillie
347	aMercer	Fergus	1st Friday	Jas. A. Goodall	James Beattie
348	aGeorgian	Pen'tang'sh'e	1st Thursday	Alfred A. Norton	J. J. Buckle
352	aGranite	Parry Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Edwin Pirie	D. Macfarlane
354	aBrook	Cannington	W. b.f.m.	A. A. McKenzie	Joseph A. Kift
356	aRiver Park	Streetsville	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. Couse	Wm. Taylor
357	aWaterdown	Millgrove	Tu. on or b.f.m	Wm. Pepper	B. G. Eyckman
358	aDelaware Valley	Delaware	F. on or b.f.m	James Finch	Jno R. Hammond
359	aVittoria	Victoria	F. on or b.f.m	Robt. W. McCall	John Pow
360	aMuskoka	Bracebridge	Tu. on or b.f.m	Chas. G. Mills	Francis P. Warner
361	aWaverley	Guelph	4th Monday	Charles Law	H. E. Jackson
362	aMaple Leaf	Tara	M. on or b.f.m	Jas. A. McDonald	E. A. Gerolamy
364	aDufferin	Melbourne	W. on or b.f.m	A. Carruthers	John Cooper
367	aSt. George	Toronto	1st Friday	Jos. W. Hickson	W. J. Guy
368	aSalem	Brockville	2nd Monday	W. B. Reynolds	E. A. Geiger
369	aMimico	Lambton M.	Tu. on or b.f.m	F. F. Reeves	Archie McKinnon
370	aHarmony	Delta	W. on or b.f.m	D. A. Coen, M.D.	J. W. Russell
371	aPrince of Wales	Ottawa	4th Friday	E. J. L. Gallaher	John B. Wright
372	aPalmer	Bridgeburg	Tu. on or a.f.m	A. B. Hurrell	J. G. Watts
373	aCopestone	Welland	1st Thursday	G. W. Sutherland	Chas. Hearn
374	aKeene	Keene	Th. on or b.f.m	Rev Baynes-Reed	H. M. Shaw, M.D.
375	aLorne	Omemece	1st Thursday	John Morrison	Hugh Murray
376	aUnity	Huntsville	2d Wednesday	T. M. Cullon	George Walton
377	aLorne	Shelburne	1st Friday	Jos. Symington	Chas. Mason
378	aKing Solomon's	London West	2nd Friday	F. A. Andrews	W. Nicholl
379	aMiddlesex	Bryanston	W. on or b.f.m	D. McPherson	Wm. Smibert
380	aUnion	London	2nd Monday	H. M. Ryan	Jos. Ward
382	aDoric	Hamilton	3rd Monday	H. J. Gilbert, act.	C. V. Emory, M.D.
383	aHenderson	W. Winch'ter	1st Tuesday	S. S. Reveller	G. Johnson
384	aAlpha	Toronto	1st Thursday	J. W. Isaacs	E. J. Voss
385	aSpry	Beeton	W. on or a. f. m	J. It. Croft	J. Dunn
386	aMcColl	West Lorne	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. A. Becker	J. A. Fuller
387	aLansdowne	Lansdowne	Th. on or b.f.m	Thos. J. Darling	Rev. C. J. Young
388	aHenderson	Ilderton	M. on or b.f.m	W. E. Martin	Peter Bowey
389	aCrystal Fountain	N. Augusta	W. on or b.f.m	W. H. Waddell	G. W. Chapman
390	aFlorence	Florence	Th. on or b.f.m	E. B. Brown	J. D. McMillan
391	aHoward	Ridgetown	M. on or b.f.m	A. G. Kennedy	W. H. Ellsworth
392	aHuron	Camlachie	W. on or b.f.m	Peter McG Brown	A. Trusler
393	aForest	Chesley	1st Tuesday	M. R. Pearce	D. J. Sutherland
394	aKing Solomon	Thamesford	W. on or b.f.m	J. W. Smith	C. Stewart
395	aParvain	Comber	Th. on or b.f.m	C. W. Scherer	P. A. Flaherty
396	aCedar	Warton	Tu. on or b.f.m	John McAulay	A. W. Baines
397	aLeopold	Brigden	W. on or b.f.m	Joshua J. Jarvis	A. F. Wade
398	aVictoria	Kirkfield	W. on or b.f.m	Ed. Mosgrove	Jos. McClelland
399	aMoffat	Harrietsville	W. on or b.f.m	H. W. Yorke	J. H. O'Neil
400	aOakville	Oakville	Tu. on or b.f.m	James C. Ford	C. A. Bradbury
401	aCraig	Deseronto	1st Tuesday	Robt. Miller	T. W. Rowland
402	aCentral	Essex	W. on or b.f.m	H. P. Martin	A. O. Stimers
403	aWindsor	Windsor	1st Friday	Chas. Koelln	Jas. C. Guillet
404	aLorne	Tamworth	F. on or a. f. m	Chas. R. Jones	Jas. Aylesworth
405	aMattawa	Mattawa	1st Tuesday	R. Shanks	P. Thibandean
406	aThe Spry	Fenel'n Falls	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. L. Arnold	Rev M. Farncomb
408	aMurray	Reaverton	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. Williamson	Donald McKay
409	aGolden Rule	Gravenhurst	M. on or b.f.m	W. W. Winfield	J. C. Davidson
410	aZeta	Toronto	4th Friday	D. C. Little	R. C. Griffith, M.D.
411	aHodney	Rodney	Th. on or b.f.m	O. R. G. Stinson	Samuel Morley
412	aKeystone	S. St. Marie	Tu. on or b.f.m	J. A. Shannon	G. M. Farwell
413	aNaphtali	Tilb'y Cent'e	Tu. on or b.f.m	Henry McGee	W. A. Hutton

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed	Raised	Joined	With-drawn	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd	Total Mem's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
336	1	1					1			1	54	June '99	\$ 48 00		\$ 48 00
337		1	1		4		3				20	Dec. '08	3 00		17 00
338				1							25	June '99	13 25		17 00
339	15	12	8	2	5	4	22	1		7	154	Dec. '98		4 00	106 00
341	2	2	1		1	2	7				37	June '99			26 75
343	46	51	47	11	10	2	2			1	188	"		2 00	194 50
344	1	1	2				2				30	"		2 00	24 75
345	2	2	2	1							30	Dec. '98			24 50
346	14	11	12	2	9	3	7			1	152	June '99			136 00
347	2	3	4			3					41	Dec. '98		12 00	
348				1			2	1			23	"			11 50
352	6	8	8		2	1	3			1	67	June '99			41 50
351	3	2	1	1			1			3	53	"		1 00	24 25
356	3	3	1	1	1						32	"		1 00	24 50
357	5	5	5	2	1		3			1	42	Dec. '98			45 00
358	1	1	1		4						39	June '99	20 50		22 50
359	2	2	2		1						37	"		2 00	29 50
360	1			1			1				39	"			24 25
361	8	7	6	1	5	2	6				88	"			77 75
362	1	1	1				1				39	"			29 50
364										1	33	June '98	72 50		30 00
367	13	13	14		6	3				2	136	June '99			112 50
368	1	2	2			3	3				91	"			56 50
369	8	7	6	2	1	3				3	59	"			66 50
370	6	9	9				7				63	Dec. '98			1 00
371	6	6	4		4		5			4	67	June '99		3 75	45 50
372	2	2	2	1		1		2		4	46	"			28 75
373	1	1	1	1		1				1	29	"		1 00	93 25
374			1	1	2	2					26	"			18 25
375	4	2	2		3		4				36	"	27 00		1 00
376	3	3	3			1					71	"		14 00	63 00
377	4	2	1	3		2				1	54	"			29 25
378	4	4	4	1	1						72	"			44 75
379	4	4	4			1	1				97	Dec. '98			26 00
380	4	4	6		1	4				4	105	"	3 00		73 50
382	8	5	6	1	1	2	4				159	June '99	1 50		105 50
383	8	8	8							2	52	"			34 25
384	16	17	15	9			3	1		2	190	"	15 00		126 50
385	1	2	2							31		"			22 00
386	1	1				1	1				38	Dec. '98	20 00		23 50
387		1			2	2	3				18	"	10 00		20 50
396	5	4	4		1	1				2	35	June '99			9 50
399	2	2	2	1	2		2				39	"			11 00
390	6	5	6	1	1		1				24	"			17 25
391	4	2	1	1	2	2	5			1	58	"			47 50
392	1	1	1	1	1					1	49	"			32 25
393				1	3						28	"	9 00		
394	1		1	2			2				57	"		2 00	35 50
395	9	8	8		4		3				41	"	1 00		22 00
396	7	7	5	2						2	64	"		2 00	22 25
397	5	5	3								45	Dec. '98			35 50
398		5	5				3				32	June '99			21 50
399	5	5	4							2	25	June '99			13 50
400	7	6	6	1	3	2				1	84	"			65 00
401	1	2	5		1	1	3			1	50	Dec. '98	32 75		15 50
402	7	7	7	1	6					1	49	June '99			33 50
403	7	7	9	1	2	2					106	"	3 00		70 75
404	1	1			1						24	"			8 50
405				2	6					2	78	"	19 50		26 00
406	1		1		4		2				39	"			23 75
408	1	1	3				1				36	"	4 00		17 00
409	3	4	3		1						32	"			21 75
410	18	18	25		4	1	1	1		4	102	"			126 50
411	3	3	4	1	1						37	"			54 25
412	5	4				2					83	"			58 50
413	9	11	13	2	7	2	5				69	"			10 00

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1899, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
414	Pequonga.....	Rat Portage..	1st Wednesd'y	James Sherman	R. R. E. Foy
415	aFort William	Fort William	W. on or b.f.m	C. H. Jackson ...	Wm. Western ...
416	Lyn.....	Lyn.....	W. on or b.f.m	George Hoag.....	Maurice Brown ..
417	aKeewatin	Keewat'n Mls	1st Friday.....	T. J. Cherry	A. J. Holmes
418	aMaxville	Maxville.....	2nd Tuesday...	Geo. W. Shepherd	D. P. McDermid
419	aBismarck	Pt. Edward ..	2nd Monday...	D. W. Mackenzie	B. F. George.....
420	aNipissing	North Bay....	2nd Thursday	A. J. Young	A. C. Borabeck...
421	aScott.....	Grand Valley	W. on or b.f.m	J. A. V. Preston ..	Thos. E. Simpson
422	aStar of the East ..	Bothwell.....	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. R. Hickey...	C. E. Bayley.....
423	aStrong.....	Sundridge....	3d Wednesday	James Dunn	W. Dobson.....
424	aDoric.....	Pickering.....	Th. on or b.f.m	R. A. Bunting ...	Alex. Falconer ...
425	aSt. Clair	Sombra.....	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. M. McDonald	T. C. Cowan
426	aStanley	W. Tor. Junc	1st Tuesday...	A. H. Perfect.....	A. H. Royce
427	aNickel.....	Sudbury.....	1st Wednesd'y	J. R. Gordon	Gus Harwood....
428	aFidelity	Port Perry....	F. on or b.f.m	H. G. Hutcheson	Jas. A. Underhill
429	aPort Elgin	Port Elgin....	Th. on or b.f.m	John George.....	A. H. Ridout
430	aAcacia.....	East Toronto	3rd Monday...	W. J. A. Carnahan	H. A. Giles
431	aMoravian	Eden Grove..	F. on or a. f.m	Thos. S. Edgar...	Wm. Trimble
432	aHanover	Hanover.....	F. on or b.f.m	Peter Zinn	John Sutherland
433	aBonnechere	Eganville....	2nd Monday...	H. J. Beatty	Ed. Weber
434	aAlgonquin	Emsdale.....	Tu. on ora. f.m	Jno. A. McDonald	John F. Mann
435	aHavelock	Havelock.....	F. on or b.f.m	Jos. Dorricott...	Wm. Patterson...
436	aBurns.....	Hepworth....	T. on or a. f.m	F. Campbell, M.D	E. W. Geddes.....
437	aTuscan.....	Sarnia.....	3d Wednesday	J. A. Fowler	W. White
438	aHarmony.....	Toronto.....	4th Monday...	John C. Gardner	Thos. McQueen ..
439	aAlexandria	Alexandria...	1st Wednesd'y	Ed. H. Tiffany ...	D. H. Wason.....
440	aArcadia.....	Minden.....	F. on or b.f.m	J. W. Watson	W. H. Moore.....
441	aWestport	Westport.....	1st Friday.....	Rob rt Flegg.....	G. M. Gorrell.....
442	aDymont.....	Thessalon....	Th on or b.f.m	Wm. L. Nichols	Fred. Leighfield
443	aPowassan	Powassan.....	2nd Friday...	A. Oldfield	John S. Scarlett
444	aNitetis.....	Creemore.....	T. on ora. f.m.	R. J. Niddrie	A. H. Wason.....
445	aLake of the Woods	Rat Portage		D. L. Mather.....	
446	aGranite.....	Fort Frances		C. J. Hollands	Wm. Floyd.....

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1899.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd.	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With-drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd.	Ret'd.	Total M' m'b's	Last Returns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
414	10	7	7	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88	June '99	47 50	.....	\$ 61 50
415	5	5	5	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	61	Dec. '98	.....	2 00	66 50
416	2	2	2	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	25	June '99	.....	.....	12 00
417	4	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	"	.....	.....	24 75
418	4	3	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	48	"	.....	.....	36 00
419	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	"	.....	.....	35 50
420	4	6	5	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	86	"	.....	2 00	92 75
421	10	9	10	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	55	"	.....	.....	49 00
422	6	6	7	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	86 00
423	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	2 00	11 25
424	4	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	19 25
425	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	25 00
426	11	9	8	8	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	132	"	.....	.....	109 00
427	21	21	27	.....	8	.....	23	.....	.....	2	82	Dec. '98	96 50	.....	113 00
428	5	8	8	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	June '99	12 25	.....	34 00
429	13	11	9	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	46 75
430	7	4	1	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	1	74	"	25 75	.....	42 50
431	5	5	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	.....	37 25
432	8	8	7	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	Dec. '98	.....	.....	29 00
433	3	3	3	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	33	June '99	.....	.....	27 25
434	9	6	5	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	32 00
435	7	6	6	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	3	53	Dec. '98	.....	.....	61 25
436	5	5	5	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	2	2	June '99	8 25	.....	8 50
437	7	6	4	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	"	.....	.....	45 00
438	15	11	7	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	115	Dec. '98	.....	.....	107 50
439	3	5	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	June '99	32 25	.....	.....
440	7	4	1	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	"	.....	.....	24 75
441	3	3	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	"	.....	.....	40 25
442	1	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	Dec. '98	.....	2 00	64 75
443	5	5	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	June '99	18 00	.....	17 50
444	2	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	"	.....	.....	43 75
445	8	7	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	"	.....	.....	40 00
446	12	8	7	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	"	.....	.....	42 25
												Inter'st	Gen'l	Fund...	3077 32
												"	Asy'um	"	419 00
												P. M.	Certifi-	cates....	10 00
												Dispen-	ations	.....	46 00
												Miscel-	aneous	.....	62 25
												1791	1660	1580	380
												579	312	553	9
												219	24957		
												1431	25	307 50	21040 92

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

LIST OF LODGES—BY DISTRICTS.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1. (22.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop, Wardsville.

No. 34, Thistle.....	Amherstburg	No. 327, The Hammond.....	Wardsville
" 41, St. George.....	Kingsville	" 336, Highgate.....	Highgate
" 46, Wellington.....	Chatham	" 386, McColl.....	West Lorne
" 47, Great Western.....	Windsor	" 390, Florence.....	Florence
" 245, Tecumseh.....	Thamesville	" 391, Howard.....	Ridgetown
" 255, Sydenham.....	Dresden	" 395, Parvaim.....	Comber
" 267, Parthenon.....	Chatham	" 402, Central.....	Essex
" 274, Kent.....	Blenheim	" 403, Windsor.....	Windsor
" 282, Lorne.....	Glencoe	" 411, Rodney.....	Rodney
" 290, Leamington.....	Leamington	" 413, Naphtali.....	Tilbury Centre
" 312, Pnyx.....	Wallaceburg	" 422, Star of the East.....	Bothwell

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 2. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. R. Coghlan, Wyoming.

No. 56 Victoria.....	Sarnia	No. 294, Moore.....	Courtright
" 81, St. John's.....	Mt. Brydges	" 307, Arkona.....	Arkona
" 83, Beaver.....	Strathroy	" 323, Alvinston.....	Alvinston
" 116, Cassia.....	Thedford	" 328, Ionic.....	Napier
" 153, Burns.....	Wyoming	" 364, Dufferin.....	Melbourne
" 158, Alexandra.....	Oil Springs	" 392, Huron.....	Cambridge
" 194, Petrolia.....	Petrolia	" 397, Leopold.....	Bridgen
" 238, Havelock.....	Watford	" 419, Bismarck.....	Point Edward
" 260, Washington.....	Petrolia	" 425, St. Clair.....	Sombra
" 263, Forest.....	Forest	" 437, Tuscan.....	Sarnia

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 3. (26.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. George F. Morris, London.

No. 20, St. John's.....	London	No. 299, Doric.....	Lobo
" 42, St. George's.....	London	" 300, Mt. Olivet.....	Thorndale
" 44, St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas	" 302, St. David's.....	St. Thomas
" 64, Kilwinning.....	London	" 330, Corinthian.....	London East
" 94, St. Mark's.....	Port Stanley	" 344, Merrill.....	Dorchester Station
" 107, St. Paul's.....	Lambeth	" 345, Nilestown.....	Nilestown
" 120, Warren.....	Fingal	" 358, Delaware Valley.....	Delaware
" 140, Malahide.....	Aylmer	" 378, King Solomon's.....	London W
" 171, Prince of Wales.....	Lawrence	" 379, Middlesex.....	Bryanston
" 190, Belmont.....	Belmont	" 380, Union.....	London
" 195, Tuscan.....	London	" 388, Henderson.....	Iderton
" 209a, St. John's.....	London	" 394, King Solomon.....	Thamesford
" 232, Cameron.....	Dutton	" 399, Moffat.....	Harrietsville

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, No. 4. (15.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. John H. Reid, Seaforth.

No. 33, Maitland.....	Goderich	No. 205, New Domin'n.....	New Hamb'
" 73, St. James'.....	St. Mary's	" 224, Zurich.....	Hensall
" 84, Clinton.....	Clinton	" 233, Doric.....	Park Hill
" 133, Lebanon Forest.....	Exeter	" 303, Blyth.....	Blyth
" 141, Tudor.....	Mitchell	" 309, Morning Star.....	Smith's Hill
" 144, Tecumseh.....	Stratford	" 318, Wilmet.....	Baden
" 154, Irving.....	Lucan	" 332, Stratford.....	Stratford
" 170, Britannia.....	Seaforth		

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, No. 5. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. George Landerkin, M. D., Hanover.

No. 93, Northern Light.....	Kincardine	No. 331, Fordwich.....	Fordwich
" 131, St. Lawrence.....	Southampton	" 341, Bruce.....	Tiverton
" 162, Forest.....	Wroxeter	" 362, Maple Leaf.....	Tara
" 184, Old Light.....	Lucknow	" 393, Forest.....	Chesley
" 197, Saugeen.....	Walkerton	" 396, Cedar.....	Wixton
" 225, Bernard.....	Listowel	" 429, Port Elgin.....	Port Elgin
" 236, Aldworth.....	Paisley	" 431, Moravian.....	Eden Grove
" 276, Teeswater.....	Teeswater	" 432, Hanover.....	Hanover
" 284, St. John's.....	Brussels	" 436, Burns.....	Hepworth
" 286, Wingham.....	Wingham		

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WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. A. W. Crysler, Delhi.

No. 10, Norfolk.....	Simcoe	No. 149, Erie.....	Port Dover
" 37, King Hiram.....	Ingersoll	" 174, Walsingham.....	Port Rowan
" 43, King Solomon.....	Woodstock	" 178, Flattsville.....	Plattsville
" 68, St. John's.....	Ingersoll	" 181, Oriental.....	Port Burwell
" 76, Oxford.....	Woodstock	" 193, Scotland.....	Scotland
" 78, King Hiram.....	Tilsonburg	" 217, Frederick.....	Delhi
" 82, St. John's.....	Paris	" 237, Vienna.....	Vienna
" 104, St. John's.....	Norwich	" 250, Thistle.....	Embro
" 106, Burford.....	Burford	" 261, Oak Branch.....	Innerkip
" 108, Blenheim.....	Princeton	" 359, Vittoria.....	Vittoria
" 113, Wilson.....	Waterford		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Edward Burns, Elora.

No. 72, Alma.....	Galt	No. 279, New Hope.....	Hespeler
" 151, The Grand River.....	Berlin	" 295, Conestogo.....	Drayton
" 172, Ayr.....	Ayr	" 297, Preston.....	Preston
" 180, Speed.....	Guelph	" 306, Durham.....	Durham
" 200, St. Alban's.....	Mount Forest	" 314, Blair.....	Palmerston
" 203, Irvine.....	Elora	" 315, Clifford.....	Clifford
" 216, Harris.....	Orangeville	" 334, Prince Arthur.....	Arthur
" 237, Galt.....	Galt	" 347, Mercer.....	Fergus
" 258, Guelph.....	Guelph	" 361, Waverley.....	Guelph
" 262, Harriston.....	Harriston	" 421, Scott.....	Grand Valley
" 271, Wellington.....	Erin		

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. F. A. Latshaw, Dundas.

No. 6, The Barton.....	Hamilton	No. 166, Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek
" 27, Strict Observance.....	Hamilton	" 219, Credit.....	Georgetown
" 40, St. John's.....	Hamilton	" 243, St. George.....	St. George
" 45, Brant.....	Brantford	" 272, Seymour.....	Ancaster
" 57, Harmony.....	Binbrook	" 291, Dufferin.....	West Flamboro'
" 61, Acacia.....	Hamilton	" 321, Walker.....	Acton West
" 62, St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia	" 324, Temple.....	Hamilton
" 100, Valley.....	Dundas	" 357, Watertown.....	Millgrove
" 121, Doric.....	Brantford	" 362, Doric.....	Hamilton
" 135, St. Clair.....	Milton	" 400, Oakville.....	Oakville
" 165, Burlington.....	Burlington		

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. F. D. Kent, M. D., Thornbury.

No. 79, Simcoe.....	Bradford	No. 266, Northern Light.....	Stayner
" 88, St. George's.....	Owen Sound	" 285, Seven Star.....	Alliston
" 90, Manito.....	Collingwood	" 304, Minerva.....	Stroud
" 96, Corinthian.....	Barrie	" 322, North Star.....	Owen Sound
" 137, Pythagoras.....	Meaford	" 333, Prince Arthur.....	Flesherton
" 192, Orillia.....	Orillia	" 348, Georgian.....	Penetanguishene
" 230, Kerr.....	Barrie	" 377, Lorne.....	Shelburne
" 234, Beaver.....	Clarksburg	" 385, Ppny.....	Beeton
" 236, Manitoba.....	Cookstown	" 444, Nitetis.....	Creemore
" 249, Caledonian.....	Midland		

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. H. Crow, Welland.

No. 2, Niagara.....	Niagara	No. 221, Mountain.....	Thorold
" 7, Union.....	Grimsby	" 254, Clifton.....	Niagara
" 15, St. George's.....	St. Catharines	" 277, Seymour.....	Port Dalhousie
" 32, Amity.....	Dunnville	" 296, Temple.....	St. Catharines
" 35, St. John's.....	Cayuga	" 319, Hiram.....	Hagersville
" 108, Maple Leaf.....	St. Catharines	" 329, King Solomon.....	Jarvis
" 106, St. Mark's.....	Drummondville	" 337, Myrtle.....	Port Robinson
" 115, Ivy.....	Beamsville	" 338, Dufferin.....	Wellandport
" 168, Merritt.....	Welland	" 372, Palmer.....	Ridgeway
" 169, Macnab.....	Port Colborne	" 373, Copetstone.....	Welland
" 185, Enniskillen.....	York		

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT NO. 11. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, Toronto.

No. 22, King Solomon's.....Toronto	No. 292, Robertson.....Nobleton
" 54, Vaughan.....Maple	" 305, Humber.....Weston
" 65, Rehoboth.....Toronto	" 311, Blackwood.....Woodbridge
" 86, Wilson.....Toronto	" 326, Zetland.....Toronto
" 98, True Blue.....Bolton	" 346, Occident.....Toronto
" 118, Union.....Schomberg	" 356, River Park.....Streetsville
" 156, York.....North Toronto	" 369, Mimico.....Lambton Mills
" 239, Ionic.....Brampton	" 384, Alpha.....Toronto
" 247, Ashlar.....Toronto	" 426, Stanley.....Toronto Junction
" 265, Patterson.....Thornhill	" 438, Harmony.....Toronto

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT NO. 11a. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. F. G. Inwood, Toronto.

No. 16, St. Andrew's.....Toronto	No. 290, Zeredatha.....Uxbridge
" 23, Richmond.....Richmond Hill	" 299, Brougham Union.....Brougham
" 25, Ionic.....Toronto	" 316, Doric.....Toronto
" 75, St. John's.....Toronto	" 339, Orient.....Toronto
" 87, Markham Union.....Markham	" 343, Georgina.....Toronto
" 97, Sharon.....Sharon	" 354, Brook.....Cannington
" 99, Tuscan.....Newmarket	" 367, St. George.....Toronto
" 129, The Rising Sun.....Aurora	" 410, Zeta.....Toronto
" 136, Richardson.....Stouffville	" 424, Doric.....Pickering
" 218, Stevenson.....Toronto	" 430, Acacia.....East Toronto

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12. (24.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. John M. Shaw, M. D., Keene.

No. 26, Ontario.....Port Hope	No. 268, Verulam.....Bobcaygeon
" 30, Composite.....Whitby	" 270, Cedar.....Oshawa
" 31, Jerusalem.....Bowmanville	" 313, Clementi.....Lakefield
" 39, Mount Zion.....Brooklin	" 325, Orono.....Orono
" 66, Durham.....Newcastle	" 374, Keene.....Keene
" 77, Faithful Brethren.....Lindsay	" 375, Lorne.....Omemee
" 101, Corinthian.....Peterborough	" 398, Victoria.....Kirkfield
" 114, Hope.....Port Hope	" 406, The Spry.....Fenelon Falls
" 139, Lebanon.....Oshawa	" 408, Murray.....Beaverton
" 145, J. B. Hall.....Millbrook	" 428, Fidelity.....Port Perry
" 155, Peterborough.....Peterborough	" 435, Havelock.....Havelock
" 223, Norwood.....Norwood	" 440, Arcadia.....Minden

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. Latimer, Belleville.

No. 11, Molra.....Belleville	No. 126, Golden Rule.....Campbellford
" 17, St. John's.....Cobourg	" 127, Franck.....Frankford
" 18, Prince Edward.....Picton	" 161, Percy.....Warkworth
" 29, United.....Brighton	" 164, Star in the East.....Wellington
" 38, Trent.....Trenton	" 215, Lake.....Ameliasburg
" 48, Madoc.....Madoc	" 222, Marmora.....Marmora
" 50, Concession.....Concession	" 239, Tweed.....Tweed
" 69, Stirling.....Stirling	" 283, Eureka.....Belleville
" 91, Colborne.....Colborne	" 401, Craig.....Deseronto
" 123, The Belleville.....Belleville	

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14. (14.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. A. Shaw, Kingston.

No. 3, The Anc't St. John's.....Kingston	No. 201, Leeds.....Gananoque
" 9, Union.....Napanea	" 212, Elysian.....Garden Island
" 92, Cataract.....Kingston	" 228, Prince Arthur.....Odessa
" 109, Albion.....Harrowsmith	" 253, Minden.....Kingston
" 119, Maple Leaf.....Bath	" 299, Victoria.....Centreville
" 146, Prince of Wales.....Newburgh	" 404, Lorne.....Tamworth
" 157, Simpson.....Newboro'	" 441, Westport.....Westport

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ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT NO. 15. (23.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. R. W. Watchorn, Merrickville.

No. 5, Sussex.....	Brockville	No. 942, Macey.....	Mallorytown
" 14, True Britons.....	Porth	" 956, Farran's Point.....	Farran's Pt
" 24, St. Francis.....	Smith's Falls	" 990, Chesterville.....	Chesterville
" 28, Mount Zion.....	Kemptville	" 368, Salem.....	Brockville
" 55, Merrickville.....	Merrickville	" 370, Harmony.....	Delta
" 74, St. James.....	Bethel	" 383, Henderson West Winchester	
" 85, Rising Sun.....	Farmersville	" 397, Lansdowne.....	Lansdowne
" 110, Central.....	Prescott	" 399, Crystal Fountain N Augusta	
" 125, Cornwall.....	Cornwall	" 416, Lyn.....	Lyn
" 142, Excelsior.....	Morrisburg	" 418, Maxville.....	Maxville
" 143, Friendly Brothers.....	Iroquois	" 439, Alexandria.....	Alexandria
" 207, Lancaster.....	Lancaster		

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16. (18.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew.

No. 21a, St. John's.....	Vanleek Hill	No. 177, The Builders.....	Ottawa
" 52, Dalhousie.....	Ottawa	" 186, Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet
" 58, Doric.....	Ottawa	" 196, Madawaska.....	Arnprior
" 63, St. John's.....	Carlton Place	" 209, Evergreen.....	Lanark
" 122, Renfrew.....	Renfrew	" 231, Lodge of Fidelity.....	Ottawa
" 129, Pembroke.....	Pembroke	" 264, Chaudiere.....	Ottawa
" 147, Mississippi.....	Almonte	" 371, Prince of Wales.....	Ottawa
" 148, Civil Service.....	Ottawa	" 405, Mattawa.....	Mattawa
" 159, Goodwood.....	Richmond	" 433, Bonnechere.....	Eganville

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17. (8.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, Port Arthur.

No. 287, Shuniah.....	Port Arthur	No. 417, Keewatin.....	Keewatin
" 412, Key Stone.....	Sault Ste Marie	" 442, Dymont.....	Thessalon
" 414, Pequonga.....	Rat Portage	" 445, L'ke of the Woods, Rat Portage	
" 415, Fort William.....	Fort William	" 446, Granite.....	Fort Frances

NIPPISSING DISTRICT NO. 18. (9.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. N. Shearer, Huntsville.

No. 362, Granite.....	Parry Sound	No. 423, Strong.....	Sundridge
" 360, Muskoka.....	Bracebridge	" 427, Nickel.....	Sudbury
" 376, Unity.....	Huntsville	" 434, Algonquin.....	Emdale
" 409, Golden Rule.....	Gravenhurst	" 443, Powassan.....	Powassan
" 420, Nipissing.....	North Bay		

NOT ATTACHED TO ANY DISTRICT.

No. 293, The Royal Solomon Mother, Jerusalem, Palestine.

RECAPITULATION.

Erie	District No. 1.....	23 Lodges.
St. Clair	" 2.....	20 "
London	" 3.....	26 "
South Huron	" 4.....	15 "
North Huron	" 5.....	19 "
Wilson	" 6.....	21 "
Wellington	" 7.....	21 "
Hamilton	" 8.....	21 "
Georgian	" 9.....	19 "
Niagara	" 10.....	21 "
Toronto West	" 11.....	20 "
Toronto East	" 11a.....	20 "
Ontario	" 12.....	24 "
Prince Edward	" 13.....	19 "
Frontenac	" 14.....	14 "
St. Lawrence	" 15.....	23 "
Ottawa	" 16.....	18 "
Algoma	" 17.....	8 "
Nipissing	" 18.....	9 "
Unattached.....		1 "
Total.....		361

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE, 1899.

No. 82—C. M. Foley. 96—S. J. Sanford. 192—J. Zimmerman. 332—J. G. Yeman. 376—F. G. Fokorney.

SUSPENSIONS FOR U. M. C., 1898-99.

No. 82—C M Foley. 86—Thos Sargent. 106—E Turner. 230—Geo Murch. 286—Thos Sargent. 339—Hy Tolhurst. 342—W E Gillespie. 384—Geo S Booth. 410—Thos Sargent.

SUSPENSIONS FOR N. P. D., 1898-99.

No. 3—D F Armstrong, Wm Braid, O A Horning, Geo H Mathews, Jas W Ross, Thos Smith, W F Wood, Geo Winn, sr., J J Millman, Ed Murphy. 7—A Baird, J W Duval, J P Gibson, V H Carpenter. 11—S Thompson, W Schuster, T Klungbell. 14—T Turnbull, J A Laurie, G F Barrie. 17—Geo E Stokes, G Carry, Henry Walton, Wm Mason. 20—Jas McMartin, S H Milling, E L Edy, D A Donaldson. 22—J Gairdner, J Gordon, R Lawrence, A Miulster, T Pinkie, G McK Southerland, D T Secord. 24—W Pratt, W Warwick. 27—H G Frasi. 38—J E Baker, J T McKenzie, J F Spaulsbur, P Bolton, Jas Skelton. 40—J H Hutchinsonson, J E Morris, J J Spence. 42—J C Derby, W C Noble, W Joiner, Robt Adams. 43—A Leishman, C J Hollester, J Lawson, E N Fremelin, F M Baldwin, C H Gunn, C H Stephenson. 46—M Michelson. 50—J P Stapleton, Robt J Morrow, R S Jones, J A Vandewater. 54—A Newton, A L Skeele, J S Kinnee, Jos Thompson, Jno A McDonald. 55—Geo W Easton, R Brumbridge, J J Nevins, T H Wickwire. 57—J A Jackson, W Waldon. 58—J Bush, C F Davis, H A McVeen, H T F Moore, W Powley, R T Shillington, R Surtee, A F Thomas. 61—J V Hedenburg, R Mackie, Wm Ford. 62—A L Aubin. 64—Wm Hill, J D Atkins, W H Boomer, E W Greaves, R Montgomery. 69—T Searls, J Tulloch, J N Palmer, J Duncan, J Herity, A Chard, jr., A J Bird, G Kerr, M Homas, C Lott, A E Judd, S White. 72—T McGivern, A Oliver, T A Rutherford, J C Veitch. 73—T G Coleman, W Steele. 75—J D Brack, W J Fielding, W Lee, W J Somerville, J H Markie. 76—Geo. McGregor. 77—J Sheridan, W H Irwin. 78—L F H Baldwin, H Snider, A. L. Scott. 83—F Woodward, F W Meek, R H Matthews. 85—W H Johnson, A E McLean, W M Webster. 88—G T Boyle, R Brandon, W J Creighton, J B Taylor, H A Knight, J F Findlay, J Lilburn, A Gibbons, W H Lowder. 91—J Kerr, J E McDonald. 92—Thos Moore, W D Stanford. 96—G Knight, W S A Hartley, F H Lander. 98—Chris Noble, S Sherdown, R Claridge, S Jefferson, J Alexander. 99—J H Millard. 103—H Braund, W F Watts, A E Hume, D Gillies, J B Gillespie, W Elliott, W Brookman, A W Strachan, Wm Muir. 104—S B McKay. 106—J A Ballard, A E Kennedy. 108—L S Kenney, J Western. 110—A Jordon, E S Lane, T H Macdonald, J W Throop. 116—D T Crawford, J McPherson. 121—Jos C Atkinson, R D Park, B C Wheeler. 122—R Booth. 123—S F Jones, T J Spafford, C G Row, C W Vandervoort, H Bull, B L Hargrove. 125—W Pott, A Woodward, J C N Goeling. 126—R Latimer. 127—G M Sanburn, T H Brenton, G Sauburn. 136—W J Proul. 140—G Adcock. 142—J A Carter, L N Howard, J N Logan. 143—T Dillon, S Leanne, S Hunter, T H Hunter, John S Carstairs. 144—Alex Christie, Jas Greer, W P Hubbard, C F McLeod. 145—J W Fisher, R H Nesbitt, J W Dawson. 148—W A Cross, E F Hubbell. 154—J Brooks, W E Hooper, Wm McLeod, Jno McEwen, Jas Sutton, Geo. Shaw, C M Webb, Geo Duffield, J D Shipley. 156—T M Elliott, W Fox, W H Farrow, T Moore, A H Badgerow. 158—Wm Middlemiss. 162—Jno W Green, I Elliott. 169—A Furry. 173—A H Kay, D B Brown, Wm Mitchell, Geo Roberts, Wm Campbell, J T Raker, Robt Fernley, H T Walder, Wm Lovett. 178—Wm Baldwin, John A Smith, J Wilson, E Bristow, D A Hoggarth. 190—Jas Kirk. 193—D G Adair, D A Mariatt, C E Day, E B Hall, J D Clement, A M Malcolm, John Malcolm. 194—John Scott, John Holmes, Isaac Erb. 195—F Barnard, L O Lawrence. 200—D M Martin. 201—G Bartlett, W L Livingston, H C Atkinson, Hy Clarke, C J Clapp, F Tobias, A Edwards, J S Watt, Geo Bennett, Wm McKenzie, C H Hubbell, W N Rogers, J F Stoliker. 203—J Jacob. 203a—J A Sauter, J J Lynch, A Carrothers, A E Whitesacre, J E Thompson, Thos Carnell, C Reid, A M Foster. 212—J Hazlet, J Home, D Keeley, F K Rogney. 220—M M Dafe, J D Walker, N Carmichael, J T Elliot. 221—J T Winslow, P S Middough, Jas Weeks, A. Dickie. 224—W A Thomson, J B McKay, Geo. A. Pollock, W. A. Ross. 225—L E Rice, H Jack. 228—Jos Woodruff. 232—J C Schluhauf, McFarlane, F McFarlane, H G Gusterson, A McFarlane, A H Gunn, T Robinson, N Talman, N Milligan, J McKay. 238—B Williamson, H Mustard, A Menery, V W Shirely. 243—M Truesdale, W Henderson, S Atmore. 247—E L M Laline, Jno Whittaker, F J Waley. 253—C McCormick, W M Waldron. 256—G C Wagner, G W Kirk, W T Graham. 258—A James, T W Whiting, A Chatfield. 260—J Peat, R J Polly. 261—R McFarlane. 265—Wm Lubbock. 266—F Campbell, A Crawford, B Henderson, J E Doner, A L Murphy, F Clark, R H Coleman. 267—C W Cunningham, A Dollin. 269—F A Beaton, S B Lynde, C J Brodie, A B Collins, W N Souden, W B Turner. 276—J Pennington. 277—

Thos Read, R Read, M Smett, B Gregory, W H Andrews, G H Andrews, Hy Robert, sr., I Ismond. 284—R Williams. 286—E S Ambrose, W H Mainprize. 287—G B Thompson, C A McRae. 294—J E Shaw. 297—John McCormack. 302—W Armstrong. 304—G McKinley. 305—W Pears, J W Humphreys. 306—C Caldwell, F C Hamilton, A McKinnon. 312—J Scott, D. Doble, W. Ralph, W J McDonnell, G Mitchell, F Armstrong, T B West, C Chubb. 318—C H Peterson. 316—C A Tom, W G Kennedy, W G Bruce, J M Kennedy. 320—W C Beaman. 322—A McLeod, J C Grier, H. W. Robertson, C Robertson, W McClelland, J C Atkinson, J Oatt, R Campbell, R Reed, W Craig, G S Souter, R Malcom, H P Adair, P W Sabastin, J A Whitesides, W Robinson, T H Hall. 324—E B Wyman, W F Broughton, R Stark, W Martin. 325—W Thompson. 326—G A Vall, J A Kenney, A Fisher. 330—A Bodley. 334—F T Allan. 336—Wm E Lee. 337—O E Anderson, Wm Burns, Jno Drennan. 339—P Hill, J. Gibb, W. H. Conron, Wm McKay, J C Dunlop, W N McLachle, G R Moore, A J Jackson, E J Edwards, Thos Fletcher, W S Carruthers, S Matthews, W Hammond, D Hunter, sr., D Hunter, jr., W H Compton, W J Gilbert, W A Verner, A D Fisher, J C Tiet, D W Waddell, W T Rogers. 341—Jos Cunningham, D E McLaren, Geo Warder, Robt Gray, Eph McCarty, Jas McDermott, F Brown. 343—J Winfield, W J W Crawford. 344—E T Shaw, A Carson. 346—P Aropanski, J Gourley, J Fox, J McKee, G A Shields, S Tobias, A G Wahal. 348—W M Thompson, J J Whalen. 352—C L White, Thos Irwin, Chas Stewart. 354—A Toohy. 357—E E English, Thos Attridge, L J Mulloch. 360—E Goldthorp. 361—W Douglas, H M Williams, F B Fenwick, W M Stanley, D Martin, W McFarquhar. 362—Neil McDougald. 366—H F Bullin, W R Gardner, R T Kenny. 370—P K Hill, L H Washburn, C C Wilts, E C Collinson, C Dawson, J Roddie, S Robinson. 371—F Gillott, F W Mooney, F H Satchell, J J Milligan, W R Stroud. 372—Jas Stirton, H E Fite, 375—A Toole, S Faulkner, S Bailey, T O Page. 379—Wm Johnston. 382—Wm Cobden, C B Waterman, W E W Graham, A V Williams. 384—H L Sweet, F L Cowley, A E Basingthwaite. 386—John Dykes. 387—J B Boaprey, A E Sliter, J Steacy. 389—J Willoughby, W Pear. 391—J W Coyne, G Wright, Jas Quimby, J Cochrane, Thos L Butler. 394—C H Cawthorp, A Sutherland. 396—J A McKay, M Creighton, C F Johnston. 398—C G Griffin, Alex Gibson, W H Johnston. 401—S B Brown, S C D Baker, G Gordon. 406—W McKelvey, M Brown. 408—H Musgrove. 410—D S Gordon. 418—J Hill, D Kennedy, J Wands, A Sinclair, E R Shaw. 416—R Lane. 421—T J Hill. 427—H A West, O Ford, W R Griffith, F Addyman, J S Walker, C H Clendinning, A McNabb, H A Blanchard, J McKenzie, C Brouse, J Jouse, F J McFarlane, S Rondeau, A Paul, A W Watson, C J Amey, W Blewitt, A Ferris, H F McQuire, J E Mullin, Jos Austin, Jas Burton, A C McDondald. 430—R Malcom, H Tutt. 433—E Clark.

DEATHS, 1898-99

No. 2—H D Claus, 30th January, '99; D Servos, 23rd May, '99. 3—Richard Bunt, 30th August, '98; Thos F Taylor, 21st Dec. '98; W Ferguson, 27th Jan. '99; G W Amey, 29th March, '99; J Fortescue, 15th June, '99. 5—Geo Campbell, 6th July, '98. 6—Geo Russell, 27th June, '97; Jno McKay, 8th July, '97; A Lockie, 21st July, '97; E E Loosely, 6th Sept. '97; Wm Morden, 3rd Dec. '97; S S Malcomson, no date; G Gallagher, 6th Dec. '97; Jno Patterson, 5th May, '98; J W Merton, Oct. '98; O Magill, Dec. '98; T. W Leggo, Dec. '98; Rev J Gilray, Aug. '98; Aroh McCoy, 26th March, '99; A J Hubbard, no date. 7—G H Vandyke, 2nd May, '99. 9—E K Bowen, 2nd May, '99; P Phalen, 29th May, '99. 10—E G Wells, 31st Oct. '98. 11—J R Gerow, 31st May, '99. 14—J H Young, 27th Jan. '99. 15—J W McNeil, 23rd Aug. '98. 16—Thos Fells, 4th July, '98; Fred Ody, Aug. '98; C Nicol, 1st Oct. '98; F Richardson, 11th Oct. '98. 17—Chas G McCallum, 20th Aug. '98. 18—B H. Noxon, 4th Dec. '98. 20—Wm Gray, 5th March, '98; John Wright, 1st June, '98; John McDonald, 20th Sept. '98; J H Wilcox, 18th Jan. '99; A K Melbourne, 18th April, '99. 22—A R Fraser, 4th Sept. '98; R F Higgins, 18th Jan. '99; Thos Hall, 21st April, '99; Jos Bennett, 31st May, '99. 24—E Chalmers, 11th April, '99. 25—F Richardson, 11th Oct. '98; S W Farrell, 27th Oct. '98. 26—R T Corbett, 7th Oct. '98; 27—Samuel Woodley, 6th Nov. '98; B Raw, 4th Jan. '99; J M Rogerson, 8th Jan. '99; R L Featherston, 21st March, '99. 29—Wm Coyle, 20th Nov. '98. 30—G H Dartnell, 1st Feb. '99. 31—L Quick, 3rd Feb. '99. 32—L A Congdon, 26th Feb. '99. 34—Hy Sharp, 18th Oct. '98. 36—M L Burlingham, Jan. 24th, '99. 39—C C Aliema, 25th Sept. '97; W Pearson, 1st April, '99; J Arnott, 30th April, '97. 40—W E Glenie, 5th July, '98; R M Kenny, 3rd Aug. '98; R Ralston, 1st Oct. '98; J W Merton, 24th Oct. '98; T E McDougall, 24th Nov. '98; M W Attwood, 6th Feb. '99. 41—E E Harris, 23rd Feb. '99; W G Fox, 24th March, '99. 42—Jno Blanch, April '98; John W Cryer, July, '98; Thos W Harrison, Dec. '98. 43—J T Wilson, Dec 30th, '98. 44—Ed Wardell, 29th Oct. '98; Jno C Coughill, 3rd Dec. '98; Alex Mason, 21st Oct. '98. 45—D McCollon, 9th March, '99; G Pike, 8th June, '99. 46—John D McDonald, 1st Dec. '99. 47—Wm Bradshaw, 8th Sept. '98; Jos Park, 31st May, '99; S Chevalier, 33rd April, '99. 48—W Wiggins, 27th Feb. '98; E Mouncey, 17th April '97. 54—Chas H Ketter, 16th Nov. '98. 55—Josiah

Payne, 8th Dec. '98; E H Whitmarsh, 11th April, '99. 56—A Crawford, 7th Sept. '98; C Barrie, 25th Oct. '98; J H McMaster, 18th Dec. '98. 58—Jas Smeaton, 21st Oct. '98; C Holmes, 7th Jan. '99. 61—G C Morrison, 20th Feb. '99; S J Stratton, 9th June, '99. 63—J Rushworth, 30th Jan. '98; W W Cherry, 13th Aug. '98; Geo A Wilson, no date; J McArton, 20th May, '99. 64—Arthur Jeffery, 20th April, '98; J H Griffith, 30th Oct. '98. 65—John Davy, 9th Aug. '98; Matt Evans, 8th Dec. '98; F Sole, 12th June, '99; G Hemmingway, 19th June, '99. 69—D Austin, 19th Oct. '98; W J Kingston, 24th Oct. '98. 75—T Sanderson, 1st July, '98; F Richardson, 11th Oct. '98. 76—D H Hunter, 21st May, '98. 77—Thos Richardson, 1st Aug. '97. 78—Thos Wright, 10th Oct. '98; C McDonald, 1st March, '99. 84—Jas Pollock, 28th Aug. '98. 85—D Mansell, 27th Jan. '99. 86—R H Calger, 21st Feb. '99. 88—D W Weaks, 23rd Oct. '98; W R Armstrong, 10th April, '99. 91—R B Scott, 5th March, '99; W Errington, 13th May, '99. 92—H Brahme, 5th March, '98; Jno Gallaher, 12th Aug. '98. 93—D Collins, 21st Sept. '98; W M McKibbin, 28th Sept. '98; K Farquharson, 14th Jan. '99; C R Barker, 22nd March, '99. 94—Wm Brownell, 17th April, '99; W M Berry, 26th Oct. '98. 96—R E Lehmann, July, '98. 99—E McCormick, 11th Feb. '98. 101—John O'Donnell, 26th Feb. '99. 103—J W Grote, 29th Jan. '98. 104—D W Miller, 19th June, '99. 105—D Morningstar, 27th April, '99. 106—T S McIntee, 2nd Feb. '99. 108—John Hall, 27th April, '99. 109—C H Godfrey, 3rd July, '98. 110—M Dowsley, 19th May, '99. 114—E Budge, 24th March, '99. 115—Jas Simpson, 2nd Aug. '98. 121—Chas L Smith, 22nd Dec. '98; Geo D Calder, 23rd Dec. '98. 122—W J O'Hara, 6th May, '99. 123—L F Simpson, 13th Aug. '98; Chas Hudson, 13th Sept. '98. 126—H H McMechin, Dec. '98. 128—Thos Mansell, 22nd May, '99. 129—T W Graham, 12th Nov. '98. 133—Wm Brooks, 21st Dec. '98. 135—D W Campbell, 2nd April, '96; J A Hornick, 11th April, '99. 137—C F Snelgrove, 22nd Feb. '98. 139—Wm King, 16th April, '98; Robt T Kirkpatrick, 29th Sept. '98. 104—T E Moore, 9th Feb. '99. 141—Jas Begg, 11th June, '98. 142—J S Marsellis, 2nd Oct. '98. 104—Jas Green, 12th July, '98; J H Mock, 28th May, '99. 146—P Johnston, 10th March, '99; P Phalen, 29th May, '99. 148—A N McNeil, 16th Nov. '98. 151—L B Clemens, 17th March, '99. 154—Wm Hutchins, 6th July, '98; J Edwards, 5th Aug. '98. 155—W C McCrea, 16th Jan. '99. 156—Jno McCarter, Oct. '98; J J Mannell, '99. 157—E Gelday, 23rd Oct. '98. 159—W Cowan, 7th Jan. '99. 164—John Badgley, 13th Dec. '98. 165—Samuel M Durkee, 28th Nov. '98. 168—W W Garden, 29th Jan. '99; J C Senneitt, 13th April, '99. 170—Geo Ewing, 4th Sept. '98; C E St. C Simpson, 30th Dec. '98. 180—J Inglis, 2nd April, '99; A McIntyre, 25th May, '99. 186—F Kains, 4th Sept. '98. 192—J B Longford, 8th Oct. '98. 195—G N Sagers, 19th Feb. '99. 201—Geo Kelly, 23rd July, '98. 209a—A S Abbott, 5th Jan. '98; W J Clarke, 23rd Jan. '98. 216—C Robinson, 17th Oct. '98; H D Fraser, 17th Feb. '98. 218—Geo Doughty, 13th Aug. '98; Wm Lunne, 14th Nov. '98; C H Waterman, 8th April, '99. 219—B Williams, 22nd Aug. '98. 221—E Swazier, 14th April, '99; W Winslow, 5th May, '99. 230—J G Lawson, Sept. '98. 232—D G Ruthven, 10th April, '97; H G Gusterson, 234—Rich H Wright, 15th Feb. '98. 242—Chancy Root, 13th July, '98; R L Booth, 22nd July, '98. 247—R U Todd, 5th Sept. '98; Jno S McDonald, 9th Sept. '98; D H B Phillip, 30th Jan. '99. 249—J J Dudley, 21st May, '99. 251—J Woodrow, 7th Dec. '98; J Scotland, Jan. '99; A B Brown, 8th Feb. '99. 255—J M Shaw, 27th July, '98; Jas Chapple, 5th Nov. '98. 256—A Duffin, 7th Jan. '99. 257—T Cowan, 14th Oct. '98; T To d, 11th Jan. '99. 268—L W Ross, 24th Oct. '98. 270—A S Rundle, 1st Jan. '98. 271—H C Dahl, 9th April, '99. 272—H Shaver, 14th July, '98. 274—J G Macpherson, 22nd April, '98. 276—Jas Ness, 19th Nov. '99. 283—C E Lyons, 21st Nov. '98; W L Hamilton, 18th April, '99. 285—J E Rodgers, 9th July, '98. 297—Jno C Haaking, 14th Aug. '98. 298—Duncan McMurphy, 22nd Jan. '98; Donald McNeil, 7th July, '98. 299—Hy Tuffemire, 13th Dec. '98. 291—D McMillan, 18th Aug. '98. 292—J Horgan, 14th Feb. '99; J Cherry, 13th June, '99. 294—J P McDonald, 2nd Feb. '98. 299—Hugh Rankin, 15th Oct. '98; M Stormes, Feb. '99. 302—R M Smith, 12th Aug. '98. 306—M H Keeder, 22nd Dec. '98; W L Hutchinson, 21st Dec. '98; R J Fugolas, 22nd Feb. '99. 306—E J McClocklin, 16th Feb. '99. 311—Jas McMillen, 17th April, '98. 322—H Robinson, 23rd Dec. '98. 324—John W Marton, 24th Oct. '98; J A Mullen, 22nd Feb. '99. 325—A Parker, 25th July, '98; J T Jones, 29th April, '99. 327—A A Munro, 4th Jan. '99. 332—D McKinnon, 335—W H Fleisher, 1st Aug. '98. 334—J W Fraser, 6th March, '99. 339—J B A Daley, 6th Sept. '98; John H Ayre, 13th Sept. '98; Jno Chisholm, 31st Oct. '98; H Jones, 3rd Jan. '99. 341—J J Clarke, 7th Oct. '98; N McInnes, 27th March, '99. 343—T B Bentiv, 14th June, '98; H T Tinning, 14th Jan. '99. 346—A Clarkson, 19th Jan. '99; T Newman, 14th Sept. '98; J Currie, 30th Aug. '98. 347—J Beattie, 21st March, '97; R Wilson, 2nd Dec. '97; W Ritchie, 24th Oct. '98. 352—T A Broadbent, 27th June, '98. 361—J C Smith, 25th July, '98; A Strachan, 21st June, '99. 367—J Gillet, 8th Sept. '98; P Kinnear, 28th Feb. '99; D S Anderson, 23rd May, '99. 368—Alf Reynolds, 15th July, '98; W C Wright, 6 April, '99; J F Wood, 14th March, '99. 372—T C Wagner, 8th June, '99. 373—R A Page, 6th July, '98. 374—K Mark, 21st Oct. '98; W C McCrea, 16th Jan. '99. 376—E R Reed, 6th May, '99. 377—Jas Calhoun, 4th Nov. '98; J Madill, 19th April, '99.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, OTTAWA, 5899. 345

379—Isaac Nicholson, Oct. '98. 380—A C Stewart, 23rd July, '98; J Milne, 19th Oct. '98; W A Westcott, 25th Oct. '98, W Brodison, 4th Nov. '98. 382—C E Atkins, 19th Nov. '98; R D Menary, 24th Dec. '98. 386—J T Taylor, 3rd Aug. '98. 387—J W Taylor, 11th Aug. '97; C S Montford, 27th July, '98; D McNeill, 9th July, '98. 391—P Ridley, 23rd Nov. '98; E H Ridley, 25th Nov. '98; Peter Cameron, 20th May, '99. 400—B K Chisholm, 27th Feb. '99; P Doty, 26th May, '99. 401—Jos Carswell, 18th Oct. '98. 403—Robt McGuire, 9th Aug. '98; Geo Shanks, 12th Aug. '98. 410—J W Ellis, 19th Jan. '99. 412—John Boyd, 27th June, '98; Wm H Stevens, date unknown. 413—W H Halliday, 27th Jan. '99. J G Stewart, 26th Dec. '97. 416—A McLean, 1st Sept. '98. 422—J G McPherson, 22nd April, '99. 426—J A Bull, 15th May, '99. 428—J Jewett, 14th June, '99. 430—J M Torrance, 31st Nov. '98. 434—A W H Chowne, 20th April, '99; R D Fair, 20th April, '99. 436—F G Drewitt, 10th Dec. '98. 438—S Graham, 1st Nov. '98. 440—B J M Freer, 13th Aug. '98. 442—John Boyd, 27th June, '98.

RESTORATIONS, 1898-99.

No. 3—John McLaurin. 5—B R Woods, Geo A Allen, W Y Dockrill. 6—Wm Fair, Jas W Ross. 9—S Gibson, Wm Templeton. 11—Wm Thompson. 14—C B Taylor. 15—H Holt, J Sistrerson. 22—J McEwen, J Templeman. 23—Jas Reynolds. 24—A McPhail. 27—T C Allardice, R Pike. 29—J M Webster. 34—J T Griffin. 35—C W Colter. 38—A H Potter. 40—Wm Fawcette. 41—L M Lott. 43—J S Permenter, M. W Yeo, J Anderson, J White, S Loeb, J Osborne, J C Watters, R C West, D. M. Perry. 46—W D Graham. 47—Robt Caldwell, F Shaw, A Robertson. 48—S L Golding, S A Chambers. 53—J B Arnold. 65—J W Cheeseworth. 68—J Miller, W Clark. 69—J C Wilson. 73—T G Coleman, J Newman, M. Turnbull, W W Steele, J W Purdy. 75—H F Squires. 76—T H Groff, J H Brown. 81—N Vroom, R Cade. 82—J H Clegg. 83—J H Blain, F Woodward, J H Lee, H M Wilson, H H Sands. 84—W J O Malloch. 87—J Simpson. 88—J Sinclair. W Miller. 91—R B Scott, G Coeburn. 92—William Gibb. 93—Thos J Stewart, D Kennedy. 94—W H Farr, A Hepburn. 96—W B Willoughby. 103—T Sanderson. 104—W F Kay. 113—Geo Doughty, T D Duncombe. 127—Wm Keer. 131—John Jones. 135—C E Flatt, H Kaen, J Hume. 139—Jas Gall. 141—Ed Siegel. 143—J S Carstairs, Samuel Learne, T Dillon. 144—F W Bailey. 145—W L MacKenzie. 154—J D Shipley, John McEwen, G Duffield, G Shaw, C M Webb. 157—W Crosier. 164—P C Vanhorn. 168—W W Wilson, J J Yokom, M. Minnie, J L Strawn. 174—Geo Stewart. 180—James Phillips, D. McIntosh, J S Moffatt. 192—E F Cook, A Reid, S S Robinson, C J Smartman. 194—Isaac Erb. 197—Wm Smythe, A Cameron. 209a—J S Lester, A Bremner. 215—W M Phillips, A W Young, W Staunton. 216—C Campbell, E Thompson. 220 W C Van Nostrand. 221—J N Stewart. 223—S P Ford, E E McKay. 225—L E Rice. 242—T McMillan. 247—E L M Laine. 250—J G Anderson. 257—R Fairgrieve. 260—A McColl, J W Ferguson. 263—H Gage, J Davis. 265—Andrew Miller. 266—F Clark, R. H Coleman. 274—M F Furnaville, F S Bounsall, Thos McColl, L S Plummer, J M Soper. 276—J G Allen, J Pellon. 290—Jas Rolfsen. 292—P T McCallum. 297—C Clare. 302—E R Wilson. 312—G McFarland, F McLennan, C E Nightingale. 230—E W Cameron. 321—Neil Keith. 324—W M Davinson. 330—Richard Johnston. 333—A Neilson, R Neilson, D D Wright. 334—R T Stephenson, G A Mitchell. 336—Jas McKerracher. 339—Jos. Trebilcock, M A Harper, A MacInn, T Walters, C Sheppard, E C Lowman. W Moss. 344—Peter Spring. 346—N B Hare. 352—L P Quebec. 354—L L Patterson, J Davidson, Robt Way. 357—Sol F Ryckman. 364—Jas Thompson. 367—J Marshall, D Craig. 368—T W Smith, F O Winters, W Tomlinson. 371—H Leitch, J Hyman, T W Hodgins, A T G McVeity. 372—Jas Sherton. 373—T Mains. 377—Robt Hartley. 380—Jno Boyd, A B Pingel, Wm Hunter, Ed Gardner. 383—A S Shaver, A D Wishart. 384—R W Purvis, Wm. Fahey, F L Cowley, A E Bassingthwaite, 388—J H Patrick, G Lipsett. 391—Thos Shipley. 392—B Schram. 396—Robt Davies, S W Jennings. 399—D D Yorke, J A Robins. 400—C B Patterson. 401—C J Becker. 402—L E Shepherd. 406—Wm Hogarth, C F Tucke. 410—J O Orr, H A Yule, A F Dixon, W F Lancaster. 415—E A Carpenter. 416—Wm H Burns. 418—J D Robinson. 427—Chas Ford, Jas Hughes. 430—J Coleridge. 435—Wm Coon, Fred G Drewitt.

In Memoriam.

Most Worshipful Brother

BYRON L. CARR

Representative near the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

Died 22nd April, 1899.

Most Worshipful Brother

ANDREW BUNTON

Representative near the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Died 16th June, 1897.

Right Worshipful Brother

RAMON MARTI BOADA

Representative near the Grand Lodge of the
Island of Cuba.

Died—

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

GEORGE F. H. DARTNELL

Past Master of Composite Lodge No. 80, Whitby ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Ontario District.

Died 2nd February, 1890.

Right Worshipful Brother

W. L. HAMILTON

Past Master of Eureka Lodge No. 288, Belleville ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Prince Edward District.

Died 18th April, 1890.

Right Worshipful Brother

E. G. WELLS

Past Master of Norfolk Lodge No. 10, Simcoe ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Wilson District.

Died 31st October, 1890

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

DAVID COLLINS

Past Master of Northern Light Lodge No. 93, Kincardine ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of North Huron District.

Died 22nd September, 1896.

Right Worshipful Brother

FRANCIS RICHARDSON

Past Master of Ionia Lodge No. 25, Toronto ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto District.

Died 11th October, 1896.

Right Worshipful Brother

WILLIAM WADDINGTON

Past Master of Cataract Lodge No. 92, Kingston ;
Past District Deputy Grand Master of St. Lawrence District.

Died 28th May, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

JOHN WALTER MURTON

Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 40, Hamilton.
Past Grand Senior Warden.

Died 24th October, 1898.

Right Worshipful Brother

L. A. CONGDON

Past Master of Amity Lodge, No. 32, Dunnville.
Grand Registrar.

Died 25th February, 1899.

Very Worshipful Brother

JAMES M. ROGERSON

Past Master of Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27, Hamilton.
Past Assistant Grand Organist.

Died 8th January, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

F. ROWLAND

Past Master of Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, Kingston.
Past Grand Supt. of Works.

Died 14th January, 1899.

Very Worshipful Brother

JOHN McCARTER

Past Master of York Lodge, No. 156, North Toronto.
Past Grand Pursuivant.

Died 17th October, 1898.

Very Worshipful Brother

C. McDONALD, M. D.

Past Master of King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg.
Grand Steward.

Died 1st March, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

B. G. FREER

Past Master of Northern Light Lodge, No. 93, Kincardine.
Past Grand Steward.

Died 13th August, 1898.

Very Worshipful Brother

JOHN HALL

Past Master of Blenheim Lodge, No. 106, Princeton.
Past Grand Steward.

Died 27th April, 1899.

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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1899.

Report on Correspondence.

HENRY ROBERTSON, *Chairman.*

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to present the following review of the various Proceedings of other Grand Lodges which have been placed in their hands during the past year.

By far the most important topic of discussion in Masonic circles in America is the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in their quasi-recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges. The full text of the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of Washington in this matter will be found in the review of that jurisdiction. It is true that the author of these resolutions says that they do not recognise any Negro Grand Lodge, but the distinction is too fine for ordinary mortals to grasp. The Grand Lodge allows its lodges and members to recognise as Masons Negroes initiated in lodges tracing their origin to certain named Negro Grand Lodges; and if this is not a recognition of those bodies, then we must confess that we do not know what recognition means. At all events, it seems to be everywhere an accepted fact that recognition of the Negro lodges and Grand Lodges is the meaning and effect of these resolutions.

The merits of the case have been fully and exhaustively discussed in years gone by. The subject of Negro Masonry has been brought to the attention of a number of Grand Lodges with the invariable result that it was condemned as clandestine and irregular.

The question of color does not enter into the discussion at all, it being universally admitted that neither race nor color will debar an applicant from initiation into the mysteries of the Craft.

There are many regular Negro Masons, made in regular lodges; and the status of these is not in question; but it is the far larger number, tracing their origin to African Lodge, sometimes called "Prince Hall" Lodge, that the Grand Lodge of Washington proposes to recognize.

This African Lodge, of which Prince Hall was Master, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1784 to meet in Boston, Massachusetts, a territory which had been then already occupied by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts since the year 1775. African Lodge was empowered to meet as a lodge, but it had no power to constitute any other lodges. For failure to make returns and other reasons, it was struck off the roll by the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. It does not appear to have worked after the death of Prince Hall in 1807. Prior to his death, however, he, without any apparent authority, organized a lodge in Philadelphia and another in Providence, Rhode Island, and these three lodges afterwards formed a Grand Lodge; and it is from this body that all the present Negro Lodges and Grand Lodges proposed to be recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington trace their origin.

The whole subject has been exhaustively treated by such eminent brethren as Charles W. Moore, Winslow Lewis, William S. Gardner, Charles Levi Woodbury, Josiah H. Drummond and others, and all agree that these Negro Lodges are irregular and clandestine.

At the present writing it looks as if the Grand Lodge of Washington would be entirely cut from fellowship with nearly all of the American Grand Lodges. The one solitary note of approval is from Bro. Joseph Robbins, of Illinois, whose individual opinion is in favor of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

The Grand Lodges of New York, North Carolina, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas, Florida, New Jersey, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Louisiana have all declared non-intercourse.

Bros. Cunningham, of Ohio, and Atkinson, of West Virginia, disagree with the conclusions of Washington.

Rhode Island says that only one Grand Lodge can be erected in the same jurisdiction and that such Grand Lodge cannot divide with another body the control of

the Craft in any given State of Territory; and they fraternally ask the Grand Lodge of Washington to reconsider their action.

Massachusetts protests and demands a speedy reconsideration.

Michigan, Utah and Virginia also ask the Grand Lodge of Washington to repeal its action.

Connecticut condemns the action, and Bro. Singleton, of the District of Columbia, says that these Negro Lodges are undoubtedly clandestine.

We have received and reviewed the Proceedings of all the American Grand Lodges, and also the Proceedings of New South Wales, New Zealand, Victoria and South Australia, with a partial account of the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland. These reviews are arranged in alphabetical order and a list of them will be found at the close of this report.

ALABAMA.

78th Communication, Montgomery, Dec. 6, 1898.

James A. Bilbro, G.M.

The work is growing and taking deeper root than ever before. The brethren are giving greater heed to the spirit of Masonry, and practising more faithfully the principal tenets of the Order.

The Grand Master issued dispensations for three new lodges.

He recommends as follows:

"1. I recommend that the explanation of the principal tenets of the Order as given in the Chart, and the three great duties of a Mason, as given in the charge at initiation, be read in open Lodge at each regular Communication of our subordinate Lodges.

"I do not believe these great lessons can be too often repeated nor made too familiar to the Craft. They are the basis of all that is good in Masonry, and without their practice there can be no growth in those virtues which mark true Masonic character. * * *

"2. I recommend that the time within which a lodge may demand of a Sister Lodge fees, because of a failure to comply with Section 13 of Article 6 of the Constitution, be limited to three months after notice or information that the degrees, or any of them, have been conferred.

"3. I recommend that hereafter each subordinate Lodge forward with its returns to the Grand Lodge a report signed by

the Master, stating the number of widows and orphans of deceased Masons, in the jurisdiction of his lodge, in circumstances of need, and what is being done for their relief.

"4. I recommend that at the regular Communications of a subordinate lodge, the following questions be asked by the Master, before closing the lodge:

"1. Are any of the brethren sick?

"2. Is there a Master Mason or member of his family, in the Jurisdiction of this Lodge, in want or distress?

"3. Are the brethren living in peace and harmony?

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That all fraternal relations heretofore subsisting between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington be, and they are hereby suspended until the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington shall have rescinded its resolutions recognizing Negro Masonry."

Their new Masonic Temple was dedicated with full ceremonies, and they had the pleasure of meeting in their own home. The land and building and furnishing cost about \$53,000.

The Grand Lodge has sustained a heavy loss in the death of Bro. Palmer J. Pillans, P.G.M. He was Grand Master in 1876 and 1877, Chairman of Correspondence for over 20 years and a faithful, earnest and active member of the Grand Lodge for more than 40 years. He was a man of the most kindly nature, earnest in good works and beloved by all. His reports were always interesting and profitable and his extensive experience made him a power in the Craft. Having completed a well-spent life, he passed away at the age of 82, to the sorrow of all his brethren.

The successor of Bro. Pillans in the Correspondence Department is Bro. William Y. Titcomb, who furnishes an excellent review of the current Proceedings. Canada for 1897 and 1898 receives due attention, with commendation of our work of benevolence. His concluding remarks are full of eloquence:

"We have been wont to liken our Craft to a stately ship sailing over many a sea. This majestic ship of Masonry has come on her glistening way adown the ages, leaving behind her a resplendent wake on the sea of human vicissitudes. At times her skies have been serene, and, for a season, she has ploughed her foamy furrow with even keel; anon, she has encountered storm and tempest.

"The hidden reefs of envy have lurked below a smooth and shining surface to lure her to destruction; the blasts of fury opened wide their cavernous jaws to swallow her bodily, but

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have descended upon her as did those let loose by Eolus on the fleet of pious Æneas; the fierce lightnings of malice have blazed about her bulwarks; the loud thunders of hate have roared and rattled above her; the huge billows of rage have opened wide their cavernous jaws to swallow her bodily, but with timbers staunch and tight, her faithful crew all at their posts, the pilot, Wisdom, at the helm, the square and compasses as her guides, and the Holy Bible for her chart, she has held on her way, and still holds on toward the Port of Everlasting Peace.

Lodges, 376; members, 11,345; decrease, 23.

B. D. Williams (Oxford), G.M.

H. C. Armstrong (Montgomery), G.S.

ARIZONA.

17th Communication, Globe, Nov. 15, 1898.

Joseph B. Creamer, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"The past year seems to have been one of general prosperity in Arizona, and our Order being in close touch and sympathy with everything affecting the welfare of the people at large, has had its share of this prosperous condition of affairs. By correspondence with the several officers of the Grand Lodge and the Masters of the various lodges, I have been able to ascertain that, while none of the lodges have lost ground, the majority have made material gains. The report of the Grand Secretary will show a gain of sixty-five in the jurisdiction. All is peaceful and harmonious within the jurisdiction, and only a slight jar occurred between two of the lodges, regarding a matter of territorial jurisdiction, which has been amicably adjusted."

Bro. Charles D. Belden, the Grand Orator, delivered an eloquent address on "Freemasonry—The Divine Plan of Life," from which we make the following extract:

"The Temple, when completed, represented organized labor. Organization that was peaceful and harmonious; labor in unison with the arts and sciences. It was the exponent of the first effort to dignify labor. It was an inspiring object lesson of enthusiastic liberality, scientific labor, the brotherhood of man, and the supremacy of Jehovah.

"The truths contained in that object lesson were:

"1. This life aspires to immortality.

"2. This life is labor, and labor is life.

"3. This life is a brotherhood of equality.

"4. This life is best when free, but must be well regulated.

"To-day the Order of Freemasonry includes a million of disciples preaching and practicing similar precepts.

"The thoughts we are thinking our fathers would think,' and Freemasonry we find holding aloft its signs and symbols, its emblems and truths, amid the growing civilizations, concurrent with the spread of the religion of God, during each of the centuries past. Documentary evidence may be wanting, but results are not. We may trace our speculative system back for two hundred years, when we enter upon the operative. Thence for centuries the work of the Architects, entirely under the control of a monopolizing Order, is continuous with the Roman Collegia or the Byzantine Orders. But under whatever name, or perhaps without a name, this system, whose highest ministry is the service of man, is distinctly traceable from the building of King Solomon's Temple. Then and there, under the supervision of the wisest of mankind, whose inspiration was direct from God, a new and distinct departure was effected in the manner of the conduct of the labor of mankind. Labor from that day forth meant a more glorious manhood. Since then the system that achieved that humane reform has progressed with the development of the ages. As civilization has changed, as invention has revealed wonders, and as bigotry and superstition have yielded to the influence of the expanding rays of Eternal Truth, so equally has this handmaid of religion advanced her standards and exerted a beneficial power.

"Gamaliel, the Hebrew scholar, applies a profound rule for the measurement of affairs: 'If this counsel, or this work, be of men, it will come to naught; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it.' Apply this test to Freemasonry. It has survived the ruins of systems, orders and religions; of states, of kingdoms and of empires. 'In every nation, among the clashing interests of religious sectarianism, the merciless persecution of enthusiastic bigots, the jealousies of unpiety tyrants, and the convulsions of the moral and the revolutions of the political world, Masonry has escaped the ruins.'

"Without territorial possessions, without any coercing power than that of morality and virtue, it has survived the wreck of mighty empires, and resisted the destroying hand of time. Contrast the history of Freemasonry with the history of the nations of the world, and what is the result: The Jews, God's favored people, into whose custody Masonry was first entrusted by its Divine Author, where are they now? A race of wanderers, scattered over the globe. And the stupendous and magnificent structure, the Temple, at once their glory and the wonder of the world, where is it now? Not one stone left upon another. Babylon, in her day, the Queen of nations, has fallen, never to rise again. Egypt, with her kings and philosophers, classic Greece, and Imperial Rome, we now find but occupying their page in the history of the world. But Masonry, at this moment, shines throughout the world with as bright and undiminished a lustre as when first revealed by God to man."

On the negro question, the Committee on Correspondence presented the following report:

"In the matter of the action by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington, recognizing as legitimate Masons negroes tracing descent from 'Prince Hall' Lodge, your committee does not think any action by this Grand Lodge necessary at this time.

"The question of the admission of negroes, either by initiation, affiliation or visitation, has never, to this committee's knowledge, come before any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; and your committee is of the opinion that when the question does arise a strict compliance with the requirements of the Constitution and Ritual will solve all difficulties, without the necessity of allusion to or drawing of the color line.

"A desire for notoriety, rather than a desire to right a wrong, is probably the cause of this cloud occasionally obscuring the Masonic horizon."

The Grand Master refused to depute a brother who was not a Past Master to install the officers of a lodge. Quite correct.

Tucson was made the permanent place of meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Lodges, 14; members, 701; increase, 84.

Anthony A. Johns (Prescott), G.M.

George J. Roskrue (Tucson), G. S.

ARKANSAS.

59th Communication, Little Rock, Nov. 15, 1898.

J. B. Baker, G. M.

The Fraternity has maintained its general prosperity and harmony prevails. Six new lodges were formed.

Ouachita College of Arkadelphia donated to the Grand Lodge two Scholarships, valued at \$50 each, the beneficiaries to be daughters of deceased Master Masons.

The National Grand Lodge of Sweden was recognized.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That in view of the action in regard to Negro Masonry taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons, at its last Communication, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas hereby declares non-intercourse between its subordinates and members, and the said Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members."

They are still in trouble with the debt on their Masonic Temple. It belongs to the Grand Lodge and the revenues do not seem sufficient to pay the expenses and also the interest on the debt. In order to save the property, an amendment to the Constitution was adopted

providing that for the next six years the Grand Lodge shall only meet biennially. The saving thus to be effected will put them in good shape. There will be no meeting in 1899. The report on Correspondence is also to be discontinued until the Temple debt is paid.

Lodges, 448; members, 12,522; decrease, 156.

Robert M. Smith (Hot Springs), G. M.

Fay Hempstead (Little Rock), G. S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

27th Communication, New Westminster, June 23, 1898.

Rev. E. D. McLaren, G.M.

The Grand Master visited 18 out of the 24 lodges in the jurisdiction. He reports the utmost harmony and a year of peace and brotherly love. On one occasion he experienced a new sensation:

"On Thursday evening I visited Kaslo Lodge, where I had the somewhat novel experience of having to appear before a Board of Trial. The examining committee felt considerable reluctance about subjecting the Grand Master to an examination; but as there was no other course open, they discharged their duty faithfully. As some of you may be feeling apprehensive as to the result, let me at once relieve your anxiety by informing you that I managed to pass a satisfactory examination, and was thereupon duly admitted to the lodge, where the brethren received me with the utmost cordiality."

We also extract the following:

"In view of the probability of the presentation in the near future of a petition for a dispensation to form a Masonic Lodge in Dawson City, I have written to W. Bro. Richardson, of that place, authorizing him to examine the brethren who may be recommended as the first officers of the new lodge, and I have also communicated with the M. W., the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, asking if that Grand Lodge claims to have jurisdiction in the Yukon Territory."

There are prospects of new lodges at Fort Steele, Midway, New Denver and Sandon.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. W. A. DeWolf Smith, of New Westminster. Canada for 1897 receives a good notice and he is complimentary to our District Deputies on their attention to their work. He also says

"We are pleased to notice in the list of District Deputies

for the present year, the names of two old friends, R. W. Bros. Dr. C. E. Josephs, of Pembroke, and Dr. W. H. Howey, of Sudbury. We have no doubt that they will render a good account of their stewardship next July."

Lodges, 24; members, 1,339; increase, 97.

David Wilson (Victoria), G.M.

W. J. Quinlan (Nelson), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

49th Communication, San Francisco, Oct. 11, 1898.

Thomas Flint, Jr., G. M.

He reports continued prosperity and a large increase in membership. He decided that an Italian, speaking no English, could not receive the degrees by the medium of an interpreter. A new lodge was opened at Covina. In all cases of a change in the by-laws involving a reduction of dues, he required a complete financial statement; and he refused approval where the proposed reduction would leave the income too small for the proper care of the sick and indigent. The following extracts from his excellent address will be found interesting:

"At the suggestion of a number of the brethren I authorized the erection of Masonic headquarters among the soldiers located at Camp Merritt.

"By this means the brethren of the different Grand Jurisdictions were enabled to become acquainted, information of a Masonic character was furnished to all inquirers, an opportunity was given for reading, writing and social intercourse, and, in general, everything possible was done for the comfort and accommodation of our soldier brethren.

"Two applications have been received by me during the past six months asking for dispensations to form lodges among the soldiers enlisted from this State.

"To those who conceived the idea, and so faithfully carried out the plan in all its details, I extend my personal thanks, and trust that the Grand Lodge will give its approval of the same.

"A careful examination of the reports of various Grand Masters from 1861 to 1865, upon the so-called Army Lodges, convinced me that for various reasons it would not be for the best interests of the Craft to grant dispensations of such a character, at least until the Grand Lodge had determined the manner and method by which such dispensations were to be granted.

"When the Philippines shall have come under the authority of the United States and something of political and social permanency shall have been secured, the location of Masonic

Lodges in that far away land to assist in the upbuilding of the State and the elevation of mankind will be the duty of this great Order.

"I refer this subject to you for your consideration and for such action as may by you be deemed wise and proper for the future.

"On May 3, 1898, I gave my official sanction to the opening of a Masonic Fair in the city of San Francisco, under the auspices and direction of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, and for the purpose of raising funds for the completion of the same.

"The vast crowds that attended from the opening to the closing night is evidence of the success of the undertaking, and the report of the Board of Trustees will show the financial aid received by this means. Too much credit cannot be accorded to those who devoted their time and means to this Fair. So many contributed to make the affair successful that it is impossible to mention individual persons, but to one and all the thanks of this Grand Lodge should be given.

"I congratulate you, brethren, upon the fact that the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, which for so many years has engaged the time and attention of the Craft, has at last been completed, and that this Grand Lodge will at this Communication dedicate it to the purposes for which it has been erected.

"May those in whose minds the idea was conceived, and those by whose intelligence, business ability and pertinacity this work has been accomplished, receive from this Grand Lodge the thanks that to them are due. The struggle has been long, the task difficult, but at last success has been achieved, and on to-morrow the widows and fatherless will have a 'Home' to shelter them from the cold blasts of adversity and from the trials and vexations of life.

"The future support and maintenance of this institution should now receive the attention of the Fraternity, and I urge upon you a careful consideration of this subject.

"The rush to the Klondike and the war with Spain have created an unusual demand for Grand Lodge diplomas from the brethren of this jurisdiction. The price fixed for the issuance of each diploma has heretofore been \$1, but I am informed by the Grand Secretary that the actual cost to the Grand Lodge exceeds that amount, and would, therefore, recommend that the price of each diploma be increased to such an amount as will at least reimburse the Grand Lodge for money expended.

"The recent acquisition by the United States of the Hawaiian Islands has added, in a certain sense, to the responsibilities of this Grand Lodge. The two lodges chartered by this Grand Body have thus become nearer and dearer to us, and a territory has been opened that, to a certain degree, may be considered our own, in a Masonic sense. While the several lodges situated at Hawaii have derived their charters from

different Grand Jurisdictions, it would seem to be for the best interests of Freemasonry that they be, if possible, comprised within the same jurisdiction, and from the fact that the Grand Lodge of California is nearer than any other Grand Lodge; and from the further fact that our Masonic relations are, and must be, in the future brought nearer and closer, it would appear that the most natural affiliation of the lodges situated in Hawaii should be with the Grand Lodge of California. We are not unmindful of the fact that the territory of Hawaii is a concurrent one, and that the lodges heretofore chartered have been so chartered in a regular manner, nor would we in any way seek to infringe upon the jurisdiction of any other regular Grand Lodge; but the nearness of Hawaii to this jurisdiction, the close relations that must hereafter exist between our peoples and the fraternal friendship that has in the past been a source of pleasure to us both, would seem to indicate that a closer union would be advisable. I therefore recommend that the subject of a closer union of the lodges in Hawaii with those of this jurisdiction be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and that said committee report to this Grand Lodge at this Communication such recommendations as they may think proper under the circumstances."

The following communication was received from their lodge at Honolulu:

"To our Masonic Brethren:

"Greeting—In view of the fact that the recent annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States has drawn the attention of the public, more especially the people of the Pacific Coast, to this group, and in view also of the fact that many people know but little of Hawaii, except the information gleaned from sensational newspaper articles, it is reasonable to suppose that large numbers of the unemployed will desire to rush to what they believe to be a new country, with a fine climate, a rich soil, a sparse civilized population, and large tracts of land lying idle and only awaiting ownership by possession of the first new comer.

"The influx of strangers has already begun, and while no doubt the experience of many disappointed seekers of employment will find expression in the newspapers of the Coast and elsewhere at an early day—and, perhaps, deter some emigrants from 'making the leap in the dark'—still, the several fraternal societies of Honolulu deem it a duty to sound a note of warning to their brethren in the hope that much suffering and disappointment may be averted.

"To that end Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, F. & A. M., have appointed the undersigned as a committee to communicate with the Masonic Grand Lodges, respectfully petitioning them to advise the brethren of their jurisdiction, through their local lodges, of the present state of affairs at the Islands, and warn them that there is little or no opportunity for those who being unemployed are seeking a livelihood. For mechanics who are

skilled workmen there is occasional demand. But there is no certainty of continual work, as the resident master workmen as a rule are equal to all requirements.

"For clerical work, book-keepers, shopmen, stenographers, typewriters, etc., both male and female, the supply for the past two years has been greatly in excess of the demand, and for unskilled labor neither climate nor pay is adapted to the white man. Outside of Honolulu and Hilo there are really no towns or villages, unless plantation camps may be classed as such.

"In the professions—medical, dental and law—we have been more than overcrowded for several months before annexation took place, and dozens have come here only to meet with disappointment, and some with distress, and happy when assisted to their homes.

"This fraternal warning is by no means intended to dissuade the brethren from visiting the Islands and settling here should they find the opportunity. The mechanic, the merchant and the professional man, who has the means and the leisure, will find much to interest him, and perhaps in due time the opportunity to engage in his calling and settle here, and he will be cordially welcome. The hotels are good, the cost of living not much more than in San Francisco, upon which we depend for most of our food luxuries, and many of our ordinary food supplies. But we are separated from the nearest Pacific Coast port by over 2,100 miles of deep sea water, and the man coming to our port without means, and unable to obtain employment, would soon find himself stranded in a country from which he could not return on foot, a distressed stranger in a strange land.

"J. A. HASSINGER, P. M.,

"M. E. GROSSMAN, P. M.,

"ALEX. MACKINTOSH, P.M.,

"Committee.

"Honolulu, September 13, 1898."

The Grand Lecturer's experience has been that the only successful way to teach a man the work is to sit down with him privately and go over it again and again until he has learned it.

The Grand Dieta of Mexico was recognized.

The Masonic Fair realized \$24,000, and the other subscriptions to the Home were over \$70,000. For the maintenance of the Home a per capita tax of one dollar per year is to be levied, which will net about \$19,000.

Bro. William A. Davies reviews our Proceedings of 1897 and says:

"Two hundred pages of proceedings are taken up with the reports of eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters, whose thoroughness in detailing the condition of their respective dis-

tricts is superior to the discharge of the same duties in any other jurisdiction with which we are conversant."

Among his concluding remarks we find the following:

"We regret exceedingly to note the slow progress of the just and equitable regulations proposed by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and known as the 'Wisconsin Plan.' They have been vigorously attacked by a minority, and the majority of Grand Lodges seem to pass them as not demanding early consideration. We hope the Wisconsin Plan may yet receive the attention it merits.

"Of Bro. Drummond's attempt to bring the Representatives of the Fraternity in the various American Jurisdictions to respect each other's rights by the recognition of the status given to a rejected candidate by the law of the jurisdiction in which he was rejected, known as the 'Maine Resolutions,' the outlook is fair for the adoption of the principle and an agreement upon a period that will make entire harmony possible, and thus remove the greatest existing obstacle to universal Masonry.

"The proposition is steadily gaining ground and Masonic approval, and as the foreshadowed results are realized this grand idea will reflect more than Grand Honors upon its distinguished promoter."

Lodges, 265; members, 19,542; increase, 734.

Frank M. Angellotti (San Rafael), G.M.

George Johnson (San Francisco), G. S.

COLORADO.

38th Communication, Denver, Sept. 20, 1898.

Cromwell Tucker, G. M.

The fair state of prosperity reported by his predecessor has been fully maintained, and the prospect is propitious for a material advancement in the near future. We quote some of the decisions of the Grand Master on new points.

"A lodge should not admit any visitor without due examination, except upon the voucher direct, or through another brother, of a brother who has sat in a lodge with, or has properly examined him and knows him to be in good standing. The voucher of a brother who may have met him in the Consistory, Commandery, Council or Chapter, and has no other knowledge of his standing in the lodge, is not lawful information.

"Grand Lodge By-law No. 125, and the decisions thereunder, expressly provide that no person engaged in, or profiting by, the sale of intoxicating liquors, can be admitted to membership, either by petition for the degrees or for affiliation; hence

the petition of a stockholder of a corporation engaged, either wholly or partially, in such prohibited business, can not be entertained, nor can the petition of an employe of such corporation, provided he sells or handles liquors for his employers, be received. In the case of an employe of a corporation partially engaged in the traffic, who neither handles nor sells liquors for his employers and agrees not to do so in the future, his petition may be accepted.

"Question—A Mason, hailing from the Grand Orient of Italy, whose lodge is now extinct, presents a diploma and certificate of the Grand Secretary, setting forth that the lodge is defunct and that the brother was a member thereof. Are those documents sufficient to accompany a petition for membership in this jurisdiction?

"After giving the matter prolonged and careful consideration and inquiry, and bearing in mind the action taken by this Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication in regard to the admittance or affiliation of a Mason hailing from or made in any lodge chartered by the Grand Dieta of Mexico, I decided:

"Answer—That the credentials submitted are not sufficient for the purpose indicated, owing to the fact that reciprocal relations have not been established between the 'Grande Oriente della Massoneria Italia' and the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

"The following question was submitted by one of our lodges:

"Is it a violation of Masonic law for a Mason to be a candidate on a high license ticket in a town election?

"After making diligent inquiry regarding the necessity of a decision upon this subject, and being informed that a political campaign was in progress, in which a ruling would be used detrimentally, I felt constrained to make the following reply:

"The question, apparently, has been raised at this time, more for the purpose of affecting a political issue at your place than for the good of the Craft in general, and for this reason I must decline to formulate a decision."

Three new lodges were opened.

A special committee was appointed to visit W. Bro. Adna Adams Treat, who in April last passed his 101st birthday, and to extend to him the congratulations of the Grand Lodge on his long and useful life.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf. Canada for 1897 receives kindly mention.

Lodges, 91; members, 7,605; increase, 271.

Horace T. DeLong (Grand Junction), G. M.

Ed. C. Parmelee (Denver), G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

111th Communication, New Haven, January 18, 1899.
Frank W. Havens, G. M.

"Much of the welfare of the Craft and the harmony existing in the jurisdiction, as well as the success achieved and enthusiasm displayed by the officers and members of the lodges is due to the tact, courtesy and skill of the District Deputies."

The Grand Master visited a number of the lodges and bears personal testimony to the efficiency of the officers. On the occasion of one of these visits, he conferred the third degree upon his only son. He has words of praise for their Masonic Home:

"As often as lay in my power so to do, I have visited this noble institution which stands as an evidence of the Masonic spirit of charity and brotherly love permeating the jurisdiction of Connecticut, and is the pride of every Mason within her border.

"The oftener I visit the Home, look into the happy faces of our brothers and sisters there, listen to the heartfelt expressions of love and gratitude which fall from their lips, note the neat and orderly methods which pertain to its management, cast my eye over the broad acres that stretch out so fair and beautiful to view, the oftener I am possessed of a feeling of gratitude that I have been permitted to be a partaker in providing and maintaining that splendid monument.

"I am convinced that this feeling is not mine alone but that it is shared equally by every one who takes the pains to inform himself of the true character of the Home and of the important place it is rapidly assuming among the benevolent institutions of the country. The fame of our Masonic Home extends far beyond our own borders and its noble success in dispensing Masonic charity is having a potent influence for good elsewhere.

"I candidly believe that it needs only that the craft throughout the state have at least an annual organized opportunity to come together at the Home, to spend a day in becoming acquainted with its purposes, its methods and its results to command from them cheerful and most generous support if not indeed abundant endowment."

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand and the Grand Orient of Belgium were recognized.

The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington regarding Negro Masonry was condemned. On the same subject Bro. John H. Barlow, in his report on Correspondence, says:

"We do not propose to enter into a lengthy discussion of this subject, but as briefly as possible state our opinions; we freely admit that Masonry is universal—that the question of white and black does not enter into the discussion.

"If the Grand Lodge of England or any lawful Grand Lodge should grant a charter for a lodge to be located in the State of Washington, previous to the formation of that Grand Lodge, it would be a lawful lodge, because it was in unoccupied territory; but when the Grand Lodge was formed, forty-one years ago, it was given supreme jurisdiction over the entire territory, and all lodges subsequently planted in that state by any other authority, are necessarily clandestine lodges, whether white or black, because it was then occupied territory. This doctrine may be American, or, as he styles it in his report, 'modern,' but it is older than the Grand Lodge of Washington, and one which American Grand Lodges cannot afford to concede, if we would save our time honored institution from confusion and disrapture. We deeply regret that the Grand Lodge of Washington has taken this seemingly hasty action which, unless rescinded, must result in the withdrawal of fellowship by her sister jurisdictions."

Canada for 1898 is fraternally reviewed.

Lodges, 109; members, 17,232; increase, 183.

George G. McNall (Greenwich), G. M.

John H. Barlow (Hartford), G. S.

DELAWARE.

92nd Communication, Wilmington, Oct. 5, 1898.

James E. Dutton, G.M.

The Grand Master visited all the lodges. Considerable work was done in the Schools of Instruction. The attendance in most cases was very encouraging.

"A communication was received from a committee of Past Masters of Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, F. & A. M., of Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, advising seekers of employment not to come to the Islands in the expectation of their being a demand for their services, as there is little or no opportunity in the islands for those who being unemployed are seeking a livelihood."

A proposal to limit their "perpetual jurisdiction" to five years was negatived and the same rule befel a proposition to debar liquor dealers from membership.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. L. H. Jackson. It includes a review of our Proceedings of 1897.

Lodges, 21; members, 2,176; increase, 50.

J. Harmer Rile (Wilmington), G.M.

Benjamin F. Bartram (Wilmington), G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

88th Communication, Washington, Nov. 9, 1898.

Samuel C. Palmer, G.M.

The lodges are in good condition and harmony prevails. The business transacted was almost entirely of local interest. A National Masonic Fair and Exposition was held in April, 1898, and the profit resulting therefrom forms a substantial nucleus for the fund to erect a Masonic Temple in Washington.

In his review of our Proceedings of 1897, Bro. Wm. R. Singleton says that the amount expended by our Grand Lodge in benevolence "exceeds by far any other instance that we know of among all the Grand Lodges."

On the negro question, Bro. Singleton has the following remarks. His position at the centre of government and his extended experience with members of foreign lodges unite in making him an undoubted authority in such matters:

"Now, the present writer has always duly recognized and fraternized with regularly-made Negro Masons, and he has met many such in the fifty-nine years of his Masonic career.

"In 1843, in the city of St. Louis, Bro. Joab Bernard, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, laid the corner-stone of the Centennial Methodist Church.

"Frank Johnson and his famous negro band of minstrels were in St. Louis giving concerts. The present writer was Acting Grand Marshal and engaged that band to furnish music for the occasion. When he arrived at our hall Frank Johnson proclaimed himself to be a Mason, with three others of the band. We examined Johnson and he vouched for the others. These four were admitted to the Grand Lodge room and were furnished with suitable regalia. They took their places in the band with regalia on, and St. Louis citizens for the first time beheld the white and colored Masons parading the streets together.

"In Boston a great many colored men have been made Masons by the regular bodies, even to the Commandery.

"In our position as Grand Secretary, we have had many interviews in our office with colored Masons from foreign lodges, bearing regular diplomas, and we have invariably treated them just as we do our white brethren.

"We do not recognize color in Masonry, hence the color question has nothing to do with this discussion, except with many negrophiles who seem to care more for the welfare of the negro than for the peace and harmony of their white brethren; but we feel assured that if those two applicants in

Washington had been white men the Grand Lodge of Washington would never have considered the question at all.

"We think that it has been clearly shown first, that the military lodge had no authority for conferring the degrees upon Prince Hall and others unless their charter shall be produced showing such authority; second, that if such authority did exist in that charter, that Hall and his crew, not being a regularly-chartered lodge by Section VIII., Old Regulations, had not authority to work as a body; third, that although a charter had been granted and received by Hall, there was never a regularly constituted lodge, and therefore all work done under the presumption of a charter was irregular; and, finally, fourth, there has never been any regular or Masonic authority since that time to legalize any act of theirs down to the present day."

Lodges, 25; members, 5,298; increase, 156

John H. Small, Jr. (Washington), G. M.

William R. Singleton (Washington), G. S.

ENGLAND.

We have received the Proceedings of a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on the 1st of March, 1899. The Right Hon. the Earl of Amherst, Pro Grand Master, was in the chair.

The principal business was the election of the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer. These appear to be the only elective offices in the Grand Lodge. The Prince of Wales was re-elected Grand Master by acclamation. Bro. Alfred H. Bevan was elected Grand Treasurer over Bro. Harry Manfield by a vote of 1,322 to 1,026. The contest was between the City of London and the Provinces, and the City won.

Additions to the Freemasons' Hall are to be built at a cost of \$60,000, and some adjoining lots were purchased at a cost of \$41,000.

There are over 3,000 lodges on the roll. Quite a number of them are composed entirely of members who are total abstainers. One lodge has its membership confined to members of the Press and another has all its members Vegetarians.

Edward Letchworth (London), G. S.

FLORIDA.

70th Communication, Jacksonville, January 17, 1899.
James M. Hilliard, G.M.

The reports from the District Deputies are of a mixed character. Some lodges have been compelled to surrender their charters, while others are flourishing. One new lodge was opened.

The recognition of Negro Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Washington was condemned, and non-intercourse declared by the passage of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Florida hereby suspends all intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, and forbids its subordinates and members from having any communication with lodges or Masons owing allegiance to the said Grand Lodge of Washington."

On the liquor question, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, that the liquor traffic is demoralizing in its effects, has been productive of great evil, misery and suffering, and has caused the downfall of many Brother Masons; therefore the particular lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction are advised and instructed not to accept the petitions of those engaged in it when they apply for admission to our Order."

A report on Correspondence is promised for next year.

Lodges, 144; members, 4,187; decrease, 130.

Silas B. Wright (DeLand), G. M.

Wilber P. Webster (Jacksonville), G. S.

GEORGIA.

112th Communication, Macon, Oct. 25, 1898.

James W. Taylor, G. M.

One of his decisions is rather remarkable:

"3. An Englishman not having been naturalized, though living in America several years, is still a subject of England and not an American citizen, and is not eligible to the degrees without the consent of the Grand Lodge of England. This decision being based upon an edict of this Grand Lodge declaring a "a man's home is determined by the place where he votes and pays poll tax."

One would naturally think that the fact of his being a resident would make him eligible, without regard to the circumstance of his voting or not voting, and we presume that he pays taxes whether he is an alien or not.

The dispensations granted by the Grand Master to confer degrees out of time were confined strictly to volunteer soldiers, "who shouldered their muskets at their country's call and went forth to illustrate the valor and chivalry of our jurisdiction on the tented field." On "Army Lodges," the Grand Master says:

"I have been called upon for dispensations to establish Army Lodges for the convenience of our soldiers, who are away from home and deprived of the privileges enjoyed by visiting lodges, and enjoying fraternal and social intercourse with each other, secluded from the prying eyes of the profane. This request I refused for prudential reasons, having had some experience with Military Lodges and finding it impossible to govern and keep them in due bounds, I notified all parties concerned that I would grant dispensation to any lodge to confer the degrees out of time on any worthy volunteer."

Three new lodges were opened. The District Deputies have faithfully performed their duties and the results have been very gratifying.

The Gran Dieta of Mexico was recognized.

The mileage allowance was reduced from twenty cents per mile each way to ten cents, and the per diem allowance was increased from \$3 to \$4. This, with other changes in the permanent membership and a reduction in the numbers of members of committees, it is expected will save about \$4,000 per annum, so that they will soon be out of debt and able to accumulate a surplus:

The following was adopted

"3. We have had before us the correspondence between Most Worshipful Grand Master Taylor and Most Worshipful D. N. Nicholson, Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, in reference to a proposed request for permission to grant a dispensation for an Army Lodge to Vermonters, at Chickamauga, to take in Vermonters only, and we approve the courteous and fraternal reply of our Grand Master that he would favorably consider such request and grant same, if made.

"This action was especially magnanimous in view of the fact that it appears from the address of our Grand Master that he disapproved the policy of such dispensations.

"4. We note with pleasure that the Grand Lodge of Peru has revoked the edict that led to the withdrawal of fraternal intercourse by this Grand Body, and in accord with the Grand Master's address on this subject we recommend the re-assumption of friendly relations with that Grand Jurisdiction.

"5. We fully approve the action of the Grand Master in extending fraternal relations to the Grand Dieta Symbolica of Mexico, as same is in strict accord with the resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed at the Annual Communication of 1897,

and supported by the exhaustive investigation of Brother Julius L. Brown.

"6. It gives us pleasure to note the appreciation of the ancient landmarks, evidenced by the circular letter of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy. We trust that this, and all other Grand Jurisdictions, will aid in exposing and denouncing the efforts of the Grand Orient of France and its unworthy offspring, the Grande Friente Italiano. These so-called Masonic orders are very probably doing more harm to Masonry than the anti-Masonic Congress, recently held at Trent, by Papal authority, and all similar opposition. These two Orients are very much like those famous witnesses of whom it was said: 'There came two false witnesses.'

"We recommend that the Grand Secretary at once inform the Grand Orient of Italy of our sympathy with their efforts, and our willingness to co-operate in any worthy plan to minimize the influence of the above cowans.

"7. Your committee approved the report of the Grand Secretary adverse to the recognition of the Grand Lodge, or Orient of Portugal. In the language of Brother Ramsay, it is more 'rotten' than the Grand Orient of France, and 'may the Lord have mercy on their souls.'

"8. Your committee recommend that fraternal intercourse be established with the Grand Orient of Belgium. Their papers appear to be regular, and have all the ear-marks of good faith, and on applying to that storehouse of Masonic information, Brother Ramsay, we find that their work is regular and in conformity with ancient usages."

The decision quoted above we find was disapproved "on the ground that residence and not citizenship fixes jurisdiction in Masonry."

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. W. S. Ramsay. He thinks it is a serious error for a Grand Lodge to give its endorsement to any business enterprise. Correct.

Lodges, 423; members, 18,611; increase, 428.

W. A. Davis (Macon), G. M.

W. A. Wolihan (Macon), G. S.

IDAHO.

31st Communication, Boise, Sept. 13. 1898.

In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the session was opened by the Senior Grand Warden, Bro. George H. Storer.

They mourn the death of their Grand Secretary, Bro. C. C. Stevenson, who was well and favorably known throughout the Masonic world for his devotion to the Craft and for his versatility as a Masonic writer.

In the address of the Grand Master, Bro. George M. Waterhouse, we find the following remarks on how to make lodge meetings interesting:

"This may be done in many ways, viz.: Rehearsing the work of the several degrees; by organizing regular classes and placing the members in different positions each evening so that each one may become proficient in any station from Master to Tyler; by taking up some good Masonic history, reading and discussing it; reading the Grand Lodge Reports, not by title, but word for word, discussing each point brought out and endeavoring to devise plans for the better government of this Grand Jurisdiction, that your representatives to the next Grand Lodge may present them.

"Have the lodge order a few first class Masonic Journals, including, of course, our own Masonic paper published by Brother Mock, at Nampa, Idaho, and have some one read some of the choice pieces of literature always found in them and allow a general discussion of them. Try any of these plans, or any other on these lines, during dull times and at the same time try to get the 'seldom attend' members out to your meetings, and when there, give them something to do, and you will be surprised at the change it will make in your attendance. You will also see that the awakening will not be confined to your membership, but the profane will notice the interest taken by the members and it will induce them to make application, and you will find the success carried forward by its own inertia. There will not be so many in arrears for dues if you can induce them to attend regularly. They can nearly always pay the small amount of dues, if paid quarterly, as is the regulation in most of our lodges, and will do so if they are present at the first regular meeting after they become due, but often times when payment has been deferred for some time, the amount becomes large and will never be paid, when suspension or remission of dues becomes necessary and the lodge is financially loser. I do not know of a single instance where a brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues who was a regular attendant at the stated meetings, and regular attendants seldom have to be disciplined in any way. The moral lessons taught by Masonry are always fresh in their memory and those who would otherwise break the moral law are deterred from so doing, by the very persistency of their repetition in the lodge room. If the subject of non-attendance can be successfully disposed of, the 'twin subjects,' non-affiliation and non-payment of dues, will cease to trouble us. Any member who cannot see enough of the sublime and beautiful, moral and refining influences in the teachings of Masonry, to induce him to attempt to retain an honorable membership, has not, and never did have, any rightful place within the tyled recesses of our lodges. Freemasonry contains all the precepts and principles requisite, if properly followed, to make a man an upright, God-fearing, honest citizen."

The State is to be divided into six districts for instruction in the work by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants.

Bro. Fred G. Mock reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 29; members, 1,240; increase, 65.

George W. Storer (Idaho Falls), G. M.

Theo. W. Randall (Boise), G. S.

ILLINOIS.

59th Communication, Chicago, Oct. 4, 1898.

Edward Cook, G. M.

Three new lodges received dispensations. The reports of the District Deputies are of the usual merit and prove the great services they have rendered. Five Schools of Instruction were held and were well attended.

The Grand Orator, M.W. Bro. John Corson Smith, P.G.M., delivered a most eloquent and instructive address on "Freemasonry Universal," which should be given in full to be satisfactorily appreciated, but we have room only for the following extracts:

"This early love of symbolism and eager search after the sublime truths, soon led man to realize that if the same discoveries could be made by different races in different climes and under different conditions that all mankind must have had a common origin and there must have been but one Creator of them all. This, then, was the source of that sublime sentiment of our brothers of the Orient, 'Allah is God. There is but one God, and all mankind are brethren.'

"In all ages the most advanced thinkers have been philosophers whose teachings by symbols and hieroglyphics have been of life, death, and the resurrection. And to the earliest of those ancient philosophers we are indebted for that classification of our Masonic symbolism and landmarks which is to be found in that trinity of our ancient landmarks, never to be modified or set aside, the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the life which is yet to come. That Masonry existed before any of the schools of philosophy is a well-established fact, for the earliest man dwelling in caves was a worker in stone, and as he pushed away from his mountain fastness into the plain below he had to build him shelter of stone or other material the most accessible.

"Rudely erected as were the buildings in early days, the workman showed a knowledge wonderfully in advance of the appliances used, and great has been the progress from the time of the cave dweller to that of the no less hazy period of

the builders of the rock-cut caverns and stupendous fortresses of India or the time-defying temples of grand old Egypt, and the still more modern palaces and cathedrals of mediaeval Europe. Through all these ages of the world's history Masonry has been in advance of civilization, spurring man on to a higher and nobler destiny. From the time of the unskilled labor of the cave-dweller to the master builders of India and Egypt, Masonry stood alone, and lifted man from ignorance and helplessness to a splendor of semi-barbarism such as the world had never seen. At that time the study of symbolism began, the schools of philosophy became established, and our ancient craft had co-workers to help make man better. In the erection of those impregnable fortresses and palaces of India, at the building of those indestructible pyramids and temples of Egypt, Masonry and Freemasonry became merged and from that time were one and the same body, operative and speculative Freemasonry." * * *

"At the time or period herein named, the operative Mason called to his assistance the speculative Mason, found in the schools of philosophy, to help beautify and adorn the temples then in process of erection, and that was ages before the reign of King Solomon. I myself have seen our Masonic emblems and symbols engraven, inlaid or painted on the venerable piles of Masonry and mosques of India, the temples, obelisks, and tombs in Egypt, even to the date-palm, or Acacia, and the box or coffin on the walls of the ruined temples at Luxor, many of which must have been erected five thousand or more years ago."

Bro. Joseph Robbins presented an elaborate and exhaustive report on "Recognized, Recognizable and Other Governing Bodies," which was adopted by the Grand Lodge. Its concluding paragraphs are given below, and they will be found of great benefit and useful for reference:

"In submitting the following lists, we have had reference to the originally lawful character of the bodies named, and also to the question whether they have since set up any conditions or distinctions as tests of admission thereto not recognized by the charges of a Freemason, and which would consequently prevent the Masons of Illinois from meeting them upon the level of a perfect equality whether in the governing or constituent lodges.

Recognized Grand Lodges: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, British Columbia, California, Canada, Colorado, Connecticut, Cuba, Delaware, District of Columbia, England, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Indian Territory, Iowa, Ireland, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Manitoba, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New South Wales, New York, New Zealand, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nova Scotia, Ohio,

Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Rhode Island, Scotland, South Australia, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Victoria, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

"To this list should be added Tasmania, the conditions having long been ripe for the recognition of that Grand Lodge. Recognition has only waited upon their formal request therefore, and is herewith recommended.

"The English District Grand Lodges and the Scotch and Irish Provincial Grand Lodges existing in the British colonies, or other open territory, are included in the recognition of the parent bodies.

"Grand Lodges known to have originally derived their Masonry wholly or in part from lawful sources, and which in the present state of our knowledge it is deemed expedient neither to accept nor reject as lawful members of the Masonic body: The three Prussian Grand Lodges—the Three Globes, the Grand National Lodge of Germany, and the Royal York of Friendship, at Berlin; and the Grand Lodges of Concord (Zur Eintracht), at Darmstadt; Eclectic Union, Frankfort; Saxony, Dresden; The Sun (Zur Sonne), Bayreuth; The Netherlands, The Hague; National, of Egypt, Cairo. Also the lodges composing "The Free Association of Five Independent Lodges in Germany," viz.: Minerva, of the Three Palms, and Baldwin of the Linden, both at Leipzig; Archimedes of the Three Tracing Boards, Altenburg; Carl of the Wreath of Rue, Hildburg-hausen; Archimedes of the Eternal Union, Gera.

"The following bodies are deemed to be without authority in Symbolic or Craft Masonry and the members of their obedience ineligible to visit lodges in Illinois: Grand Lodge of Alpina, St. Gallen, Switzerland; Grand Orient of Argentine Republic, Buenos Ayres; Grand Orient of Belgium, Brussels; Grand Orient of Brazil, Rio Janeiro; Grand Orient of Chili, Valparaiso; National Grand Lodge of Denmark, Copenhagen; Grand Orient of France, Paris (interdict); Grand Orient of Greece, Athens; Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, Budapest; Grand Lodge of Hamburg, Hamburg (interdict); Grand Orient of Italy, Rome; Grand Lodge of Luxemburg; Grand Symbolic Diet of Mexico, its constituent Grand Lodges and all other Grand Lodges in that country; Grand Lodge of Norway, Christiania; United Grand Orient of Lusitania (Portugal), Lisbon; Grand Lodge of Peru, Lima; Independent Grand Lodge of the Dominican Republic, San Domingo; Grand Orient of Spain, Madrid; Grand Lodge of Spain, Cadiz; Grand Lodge of Sweden, Stockholm; Grand Orient of Uruguay, Montivideo; Grand Orient of Venezuela, Caracas; and all supreme councils, or sovereign sanctuaries, or other powers however named, wherever situated, of whatever rite—excepting Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons—assuming to erect lodges with authority to confer the degrees of Symbolic Masonry."

Bro. Robbins' report on Correspondence this year takes the topical form. We can hardly say that it is any

improvement on the old style. Of course any report from the erudite pen of Bro. Robbins is bound to be good and this one is no exception, but we seem to like best the review of each jurisdiction by itself. He approves the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the recognition of Negro Masons:

"The earnest, judicial and cautious spirit manifested by the Grand Lodge of Washington leaves no doubt that it has entered upon its tentative course in full accord with this view. In nothing is its prudence and its sagacity more apparent than in the second resolution adopted by it, wherein it limits its recognition of the legitimacy of the colored grand lodges named, to the extent and purpose of permitting its constituent lodges and their members to recognize as brother Masons within its own territory, negroes who trace their Masonic descent through them. By this master stroke of a simply historical recognition, the Grand Lodge of Washington steers entirely clear of any cause of umbrage to the grand lodges in fraternal relations with it, within whose jurisdictions these bodies exist, its action emphasizing rather than denying its previous recognition of the full authority of such grand lodges to fix the status of all Masonic bodies found within their borders.

"This is a matter of sincere congratulation, as it insures that the courageous and generous Masons of Washington will be enabled to test the practicability and adequacy of their plan for the solution of a grave problem, undistracted by perplexing complications with any of their sister jurisdictions, but with the hearty God-speed of all thinking Masons, albeit the good wishes of some may not be wholly unmixed with solicitude."

Lodges, 722; members, 54,080; increase, 628.

Edward Cook (Chicago), G.M.

J. H. C. Dill (Bloomington), G. S.

INDIANA.

77th Communication, Indianapolis, May 24, 1888.

Mason J. Niblack, G.M.

He reports five new lodges. We quote his decisions:

"Some of the members of Sol. D. Bayless presented that this lodge and all lodges organized in the seventies had a right to confer the work in the same manner in every respect as the seventies, without regard to whether to the regular Indiana work or not.

"It was claimed that this right was given by the Grand Lodge.

"The Worshipful Master of this lodge asked for my decision upon this point, and he further asked me to make an order in the premises that would guide him and all members of the lodge in the future.

"I held that all lodges, no matter at what time they were organized, had to conform to the regular work. I could not find any record whatever showing that any privileges or any rights were given to or withheld from Sol. D. Bayless Lodge No. 359 that were not given to or withheld from any other subordinate lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction. I made an order accordingly, and am informed that my order was cheerfully complied with.

P.G.M. Simeon P. Gillett, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, extended kindly greetings on our behalf and expressed the hope that the Anglo-American alliance may be long continued.

The report of the Grand Secretary is very interesting, and from it we make a few extracts:

"On November 9, 1897, Bourbon Lodge No. 227 passed the following resolution:

"'That each member of this lodge who had been a member for five or more years shall be credited with five dollars on his dues.'

"Upon complaint being made to me by several members of this lodge, I held this resolution to be null and void, and ordered that it be disregarded, and this order has been complied with."

"A brief review of the past twenty years may not be entirely uninteresting. When you called me to this high and responsible position, May 29, 1878, the Grand Lodge was in debt \$103,650. The sum of \$100,000 in cash in the hands of the Grand Lodge. Creditors clamored for their money. Interest was paid by the Grand Lodge. The blackness of the debt was not enough for the Grand Lodge. That year the Grand Lodge was up to the Grand Lodge to defray expenses from mileage and per diem. The year 1879 they were sorely disappointed. The true affairs was laid before them. Standing the Grand Lodge was sorely straining. Understanding the fact, also, that the Grand Lodge was to suffer inconvenience, yet the Grand Lodge provided for the great expense. The Grand Lodge paid to the uttermost farthing. The Grand Lodge proves that Indiana Free Masonry may be relied upon at all times and conditions." * * *

To-day the Grand Lodge is released from mortgage and sort—has \$30,000 in—

vested in interest-bearing securities, and it also has a cash balance of \$14,239.68 in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, making sure the fact that all the expenses of this meeting will be paid in cash, and that each member of the Grand Lodge present here to-day will receive his mileage and per diem.

"In the twenty years that I have acted as your servant I have written 14,798 receipts for the collection of the gross sum of \$494,856.91, and I have drawn 1,952 warrants upon the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the total sum of \$480,945.01. Of this sum the members of the Grand Lodge have drawn the gross sum of \$117,806.90 for mileage and per diem.

"To conduct the correspondence and other business connected with my office, I have expended the gross sum of \$4,848.50 for postage. This sum for postage in a measure shows the extent and magnitude of the duties devolving upon me. As Grand Secretary I have answered thousands upon thousands of letters, telegrams and other communications since May, 1878. Every call made upon my time by a Master Mason has been honored. I have performed the duties of a Dun or a Bradstreet. I have investigated character, and have frequently found myself acting as chief of a bureau of information upon matters entirely foreign to the requirements of my vow of office. I have even been asked to give my opinion upon matters that should be answered by lawyers and for which an attorney would exact a good stiff fee. These things are not related here to be taken or considered as a complaint, but to impress upon your minds the fact that I have enjoyed genuine pleasure in the knowledge that I have rendered you service, which you have duly appreciated, and my pleasure is intensified by the further knowledge that the most humble Master Mason in the State receives as prompt attention as the Grand Master himself. My delight has been and always will be to perform the duties assigned to me in such a way as to meet the approval of the Master Masons of Indiana. Their kindness, forbearance and fraternal courtesy have endeared them to me now, and always." * * *

"The Grand Lodge of Indiana is the peer of any Grand Lodge in the world. Its financial condition is equal to the best, its laws are wholesome, its legislation wise, and its business is transacted in a business-like way. Its annual communications are genuine 'love feasts,' and are characterized by the most cordial and fraternal good will among its members. 'Dissensions are unknown among us, and the heart and tongue unite in promoting each other's welfare and rejoicing in each other's prosperity.'"

P.G.M. Daniel McDonald has prepared a History of Masonry in Indiana which has received the approval of the Grand Lodge and will be published shortly.

In his review of Alabama, Bro. Nicholas R. Ruckle evokes a thought worthy of our serious consideration.

It is whether the distribution of a large Charity Fund by the Grand Lodge does or does not tend to weaken the proper performance of Masonic duties by lodges and members. Individual giving to cases of necessity is a Masonic duty, and it benefits the giver as much as it does the recipient. It keeps the mind of the giver open to calls. One who never gives is of the meanest nature. Giving encourages liberality both of action and thought. Non-giving narrows the mind, makes a man selfish, and destroys his capability for good. The satisfaction of giving is one of our most supreme enjoyments, and we are enjoined by our vows to practice the Golden Rule.

What is true of individuals in this regard is also true of lodges. A liberal lodge does its duty in charity and encourages its members to do likewise. A penurious lodge will sooner or later be composed of penurious members and its usefulness gone. To stimulate lodges and members to good works should be a function of the Grand Lodge, and if the relief granted by the Grand Lodge has an opposite tendency, it would be better to have no Grand Lodge Charity Fund. Bro. Ruckle says:

"The accumulation and administration of a great charity fund is not one of the original purposes of the Masonic Institution. The power of the Grand Lodge to collect through the particular lodges a per capita tax for its support and maintenance is conceded. The power of the Grand Lodge to tax for the support of institutions of greater or less merit is not unlimited, though there is no statutory prescription. There is a disposition in many instances to raise by Grand Lodge taxation the funds for charitable expenditures which the particular lodges have failed to provide by the assessment of dues against their members. This carries with it the disbursement of charity by a Grand Lodge committee instead of the charity committee of the local lodge, and takes away the saving merit of individual giving, which has more of a Masonic flavor. Who will decide for us whether these provisions are an enlargement or a perversion of the Masonic plan?"

Canada for 1897 appears under the title of "Ontario."

Lodges, 618; members, 29,954; increase, 567.

Simeon S. Johnson (Jeffersonville), G. M.

William H. Smythe (Indianapolis), G. S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

25th Communication, Vinita, August 9, 1898.

James A. Scott, G. M.

The Grand Master urges the establishment of a Masonic Home. He thinks their lecture system is a failure, too expensive and too laborious for the results obtained, and the attendance too small.

A spontaneous offering of \$56.50 was laid on the altar for their Grand Tyler, who was one of the celebrated Rough Riders at Santiago, and was severely wounded there.

The Hall of Duncan Lodge was destroyed by a cyclone during a "raising."

"The lodge was in session at the time and many of the members were seriously injured, one nearly killed. On motion the dues of Duncan Lodge, \$53.00, were remitted. It is probable that the candidate who was being raised to the degree of Master Mason at the time the cyclone struck the hall realized the truth of the Master's statement that this life is beset by dangers, that life is a rough and a rugged road. He was raised in a manner unlike that of any other Master Mason probably in the history of Masonry."

The Grand Lecturer visited 43 lodges and held Schools of Instruction of from two to three days' duration. The expense to the Grand Lodge was \$790.80.

Thirteen lodges report 49 orphans under their care.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That conducting pool halls and selling hop ale, hop tea, malt tonic, hard cider and like beverages, so-called non-intoxicating drinks, are Masonic offences, and all Masons, affiliated or unaffiliated, in Indian Territory, who are engaged in such business, are fraternally required to close out under penalty of charges, and, if persisted in, of expulsion. All lodges constituent to this Grand Lodge are commanded to see that this edict is put into effect."

Lodges, 88; members, 3,450; increase, 235.

Henry C. Nash (Antlers), G. M.

Joseph S. Morrow (Atoka), G. S.

IOWA.

55th Communication, Council Bluffs, June 7, 1898.

Almon R. Dewey, G. M.

He reports three new lodges and a continuance of harmony and prosperity.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge dues of all members of subordinate lodges who enlist in the army or navy of the

United States in the present war shall be remitted during their term of service; provided, however, the subordinate lodges remit the lodge dues of such members."

The State is to be divided into districts and a School of Instruction in the work held in each district every year. The Schools are to be in charge of the Board of Custodians. Every lodge is to send at least one representative to the School held in its district, and he can receive from the custodian in charge a certificate of his proficiency in the work. The Travelling Custodian receives a salary of \$1,200 and expenses. This action is the outcome of the labors of a special committee appointed to investigate the methods used by other Grand Jurisdictions in imparting instruction in the ritual. They furnish a very valuable report and give a number of good reasons against the adoption of a system using a cipher or key. They recommend the District system as the best and the one in use in a majority of the jurisdictions.

Bro. J. C. W. Coxe presented another of his excellent reports on Correspondence and he has a good notice of Canada for 1897. It is very seldom that we quote any complimentary allusions to our own work, although there are always many such, and for which we are ever grateful, but the delicate appreciation of Bro. Coxe on this occasion is irresistible:

"In one hundred and sixteen pages Brother Henry Robertson presents in his usual felicitous style the report on correspondence, in which he reviews fifty-eight jurisdictions. He digests admirably, and quotes discriminately. We could wish that he were not so chary of his own views on controverted issues; but he may think that 'fools rush in where angels fear to tread,' and prefers the latter company. Our conviction is that the former class would be wonderfully benefited by the presence and counsel of our distinguished brother. His notice of Iowa 1(896) is brief—two pages—but kind and courteous. His reference to this writer is so fraternal that he has the key to our heart. He quotes in full our conclusion concerning the *Gran Dieta*; and his judicial fairness is shown when, two pages later, he quotes Brother Miller's reasons for the Kansas recognition.

"Fair, candid, courteous, alert to good things, with thorough loyalty to the Craft and its well-established teachings and usages, Brother Robertson's pages are a treasure-house wherein his readers may search and never fall of corn, wine, and oil, wages due to honest toil."

The comments of Bro. Coxe on the action of the Grand Lodge of Idaho in making non-affiliation a Ma-

sonic crime to be punished by expulsion, are correct and forceful:

"We frankly say that we regard this action as erroneous in principle, and likely to be futile in good results. We deny the fundamental assumption, viz.: that non-affiliation is a Masonic offense according to any legitimate construction put upon the ancient regulations or the general usages of the Craft. This whole business of enforced affiliation is a modern heresy, born of commercialism and the pernicious influence of recent 'fraternal' societies, whose badge of fraternity is the dollar mark. How a non-affiliate is 'a menace to the welfare of the order,' or how, being forced into affiliation at the point of the bayonet, he would add anything to its strength and usefulness, surpasses our comprehension. This drastic legislation overlooks the important and vital distinction between Masonic membership and lodge membership, and proposes to put the former in jeopardy whenever one chooses to forego the latter. If one elects to forego lodge privileges and the active duties of lodge membership, it should be his unchallenged privilege so to do. As a non-affiliate he may rightfully be debarred from attendance upon a lodge, or participation in the benefits and privileges which inhere in lodge membership; unless, as in some jurisdictions, he shall pay stipulated annual dues as a condition of good standing; but he cannot rightfully, without a violation of fundamental ethics, be deprived of his Masonic character and standing except after due trial and conviction of a Masonic crime. If non-affiliation is a crime, then every jurisdiction which ever authorized and every lodge which ever issued a demit is a party to the crime. This whole trend of coercive legislation we believe to be radically wrong in principle and ineffectual as a remedy."

Lodges, 482; members, 27,907; increase, 405.

Crom. Bowen (Des Moines), G. M.

T. S. Parvin (Cedar Rapids), G. S.

KANSAS.

43rd Communication, Leavenworth, February 15, 1899.

Maurice L. Stone, G. M.

From the address of the Grand Master we take the following:

"One of the most important events in our year's history is the practical completion of the great work planned and undertaken several years ago by our efficient Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Albert K. Wilson, namely, the Historical Masonic Registry of the membership of this Grand Jurisdiction from the enrollment of the first lodges organized by the M. W. Grand

Lodge of Missouri, in the Territory of Kansas, in the year 1854, to the Masonic work of the lodges of Kansas in 1897.

"Your attention will be specifically called to this matter by the report of our Grand Secretary, and as the registry is here at Grand Lodge for your inspection, will undoubtedly be examined by every Mason present. It speaks for itself, and I do not desire to do more than refer to the subject and call your attention to the duty devolving upon each lodge representative to see to it that his lodge cordially co-operate with our Grand Secretary in the work still to be accomplished in order to make the registry absolutely complete and accurate.

"This registry, as an accomplished fact, is a subject of justifiable pride to every Kansas Mason, not only because its design emanated from our Grand Secretary, but because the possibility of such a registry was seriously doubted by eminent craftsmen in sister Grand Jurisdictions, who were aware of our Grand Secretary's ambition relative thereto.

"It is the only Masonic Grand Lodge Registry of its kind in existence. A number of Grand Jurisdictions possess an Historical Registry arranged in an alphabetical form by lodges, from which it is possible to ascertain the Masonic history of any brother who was ever a member in the jurisdiction, providing the particular lodge with which he was affiliated is indicated. Kansas, however, now possesses the only Masonic Registry in which the entire membership of the jurisdiction, past and present, is alphabetically arranged as a whole, and is consequently the only registry which can promptly and accurately answer such a query as: Was John Henry Smith ever a Mason in Kansas?

"The value of this great work from a Masonic historical standpoint can not be overestimated. The Grand Secretary's report will indicate the lines along which the active co-operation of the lodges is demanded in further prosecution of this work, and I specially commend this portion of his report to your most careful consideration."

The death is announced of Bro. John M. Price, their Senior Past Grand Master, who was long a foremost figure in their ranks and who was greatly esteemed for his ability and devotion to the Craft.

A large delegation of distinguished visitors from the Grand Lodge of Missouri was present at this meeting and added much interest to the proceedings.

Two new lodges received charters.

Their Masonic Home continues its good work. There are 32 inmates, and the per capita expense per week is only \$2.74.

Bro. John C. Postlethwaite furnishes an excellent report on Correspondence, with a good notice of Canada

for 1898. After quoting the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on Negro Lodges, he says:

"We do not desire to enter into a lengthy discussion of the matter, but desire to say that in our judgment the Grand Lodge of Washington out of the generosity of their love and fellowship have committed a grievous error, the effect of which will not be conducive to the good of Masonry. The yielding up of exclusive jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Washington will require a new set of ancient charges."

Lodges, 359; members, 20,103; increase, 215.

Henry C. Loomis (Winfield), G.M.

Albert K. Wilson (Topeka), G.S.

KENTUCKY.

99th Communication, Louisville, Oct. 18, 1898.

Reginald H. Thompson, G. M.

He granted a dispensation for an Army Lodge to be connected with the First Kentucky Volunteer Regiment, with no territorial jurisdiction and limited to citizens of Kentucky in the Volunteer service.

The following paragraphs from the address of the Grand Master on the proper qualifications of candidates contain lessons of wisdom worthy of being studied by all:

"I cannot close this address without most earnestly insisting upon a severer scrutiny into the lives and characters of those who petition for initiation. Their habits, their associates, their peculiarities should all be scrutinized most carefully before a committee should make a favorable report. A careless, unfaithful Committee of Investigation is the deadliest enemy to the prosperity of Masonry, and even conscientious committees forget that it is the internal, and not the external man they are to investigate; what he is, and not what he is reported to be; is other words, his character, and not his reputation. Too many are admitted up on mere negative qualifications. The applicant may be apparently free from any open vice, not intemperate, not untruthful, not dishonest in public estimation. He may be of good social position, intelligent, rich; all these qualities he may have, and still be totally unworthy to be a member of a band of brothers, whose sole aim is to build up character and spread the cement of brotherly love. He may have all these outward qualifications, and still be wholly selfish, covetous, envious, censorious, a lover of gossip, eager to hear and ready to repeat the whispers of evil report. He may be swift to anger and slow to conciliate, a man of filthy conversation, of un-

scrupulous will, one who 'keeps the word of promise to the ear and breaks it to the hope.' These are things which show the heart, and Masonry deals with the hearts of men. Can such a man be temperate, prudent, brave, just? Can he be said to possess the four perfect points of entrance? Surely not. He is unworthy.

"What, then, constitutes worthiness in the Masonic sense, who is worthy? Let the Great Light answer.

"'Even he who leads an uncorrupt life; and speaketh the truth from his heart. He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, and hath not slandered his neighbor. He that swear-eth unto his neighbor and disappointeth him not; though it be to his own hindrance.' 'The man whose heart is clean, and whose words are pure, and guided with discretion. The man who considereth the poor and needy, and is ready to do good to all men according to his abilities and opportunities.' In short, a man of faith, who 'fears God and keeps His commandments.' Such a man may have neither wealth nor social position. He may be humble and poor. He may have little or no intellectual training, but he will give dignity and worth to the Masonic institution, for the law of his God is in his heart, and 'the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding.' This is the picture of the upright man as drawn by the G. A. O. T. U. on the Trestle Board of Masonry—the Great Light by which we work, and it is the true and only standard of worthiness in those who seek admission to the mystic circle of our brotherhood. If I could induce our committees of investigation to adopt this standard, and recommend none who does not, in some measure at least, come up to its requirements, then I should feel that my year of office has not been in vain, for I shall have done a service to our order which would be inestimable in its results. Brethren, let us raise the standard and make Masonry in fact what it is in theory, and in the exalted lessons which lie concealed in all its ceremonies, its allegories, and its symbols, the purest, highest system of ethics devised by man, to realize the Divine order of society.

"A Mason without faith is a lamp without oil—a blind leader of the blind, in whom there is neither light nor life.

"Brethren, what is the use of placing the Great Light on your altars if you never read it? There is not a form, a ceremony, an allegory, or a symbol in Masonry, that does not find its true interpretation in the pages of the Holy Book. Its words are truth. They are life. They only contain the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. When Masonry ceases to be the handmaid of religion it becomes an empty sham—a waste of time."

Over \$40,000 has been subscribed for the erection of an Old Masons Home and Infirmary in connection with their Widows' and Orphans' Home.

The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That in view of the action in regard to Negro

Masonry, taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons at its last Communication, this Grand Lodge hereby declares non-intercourse between its subordinates and members, and the said Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members."

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge puts its seal of condemnation upon all private individuals or companies using Masonic emblems or the term Masonic as a preface in their advertised business, and that such practice be considered a Masonic offense in this Grand Jurisdiction and subject the user to trial by his own or the Grand Lodge of Kentucky."

Lodges, 464; members, 18,402; decrease, 62.

James E. Wilhelm (Paducah), G. M.

H. B. Grant (Louisville), G. S.

LOUISIANA.

87th Communication, New Orleans, Feb. 13, 1899.

A. C. Allen, G. M.

The tone of the address is hopeful, although their difficulties are serious:

"It is with regret that I am compelled to inform you that Masonry in this State has not progressed in numbers appreciably since your last Grand Communication.

"In eras of financial stress, which carry with them depression in every branch of industry, and impoverish or embarrass the masses, Masonry cannot, in the nature of things, prosper numerically. Accession to our ranks grow less, and many valuable members of our lodges, under such embarrassment, either secure demits, or are forced to suffer themselves to be suspended on account of an inability to pay the dues assessed against them. The last year has especially been one of trial to our local craft. In one section of our State, while the harvest has been fair, if not bountiful, they have been forced to sell the product of their labor below the cost of production—the laborer has been compelled at times to work below a living price. The natural sequence of these conditions is this depression, this want of healthful activity. In another portion of the commonwealth excessive and continued rains have materially injured the crops, and pestilence, with its concomitant ills, has added to the misfortune of the people.

"Notwithstanding these unfavorable conditions of affairs, the morale of the Order is excellent, and its usefulness has been borne onward under the faithful guidance and loyalty of the subordinate lodges. Their duties have been well performed—their energies have been unlagging. Let us be hopeful that the coming Masonic year will be auspicious of a brighter era, and let us confidently send forth the message that, while God reigns in the hearts of men, Masonry will live and prosper."

Their financial troubles were met by the adoption of the following resolution:

"Brethren—We, your Special Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address relative to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge and statements of facts relative to deficits in the revenues, and consequent inability to pay current expenses various taxes, and at the same time retire Grand Lodge bonds in accordance with pledges made to do so, now desire, after full consideration and discussion of the very grave matter submitted to us for the most feasible solution thereof, beg to present to you the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:

"Resolved, That there be, and hereby is levied a special assessment of one dollar per capita on each and every member of the fraternity throughout our Grand Jurisdiction for the year 1899, in addition to the one dollar now required.

"Resolved further, That there be, and hereby is levied for a period of four consecutive years, beginning with the year 1900 and ending with the year 1903, inclusive, an annual special assessment per capita of fifty cents on each and every member of the fraternity throughout the jurisdiction; the same, payable by the lodges to the Grand Lodge, and to be paid with the regular dues at the usual time of sending in returns by the lodges.

"And together, with the foregoing, your committee, having in view the fact that expenses of the Grand Lodge are more likely, at least, to some extent, to decrease rather than to increase, and whereas, the revenues, should the offices and stores be all hereafter rented to better advantage, may possibly yield an increase, your committee recommend the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby pledges itself to repeal the resolution levying the assessment above recommended before the expiration of the full term for which the same is levied, if the condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge at any time warrant."

The recognition of clandestine Negro Masons by the Grand Lodge of Washington was treated in a very temperate manner and condemned mainly on the ground of the exclusive jurisdiction of Grand Lodges. The following was adopted:

"Resolved, That the representative of this Grand Lodge, near that of the Grand Lodge of Washington, be withdrawn, and our constituent lodges are hereby forbidden to receive any Mason hailing from a lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of Washington. This edict to remain in full force and effect until such Grand Lodge cease to recognize clandestine-made Masons."

The Grand Lodges of New Zealand and Tasmania were recognized.

Lodges, 132; members, 5,415; increase, 3.

A. C. Allen (Franklin), G. M.

Richard Lambert (New Orleans), G. S.

MAINE.

79th Communication, Portland, May 3, 1898.

Joseph A. Locke, G.M.

The subordinates are generally prosperous and the attendance at lodge better. This is partly the result of the Conventions held for instruction. Three new lodges were formed.

The transactions were local in interest.

Bro. J. H. Drummond reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897. On the jurisdiction over rejected candidates he asks the question, "Is one year a sufficient time for the observation of a stranger coming from another jurisdiction who has been rejected in that jurisdiction, to determine his fitness for admission into Masonry?" and in his review of Vermont he says:

"It has already transpired that the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Maine has met with a much higher degree of favor than we had ever expected that it would receive at the outset. It is true that certain Grand Lodges had already taken action in the same direction, and we do not claim that the action, which has been taken, is in response to the action of our own Grand Lodge. But that is a matter of no consequence whatever, provided that the action shall be taken.

"He will know that he is in error as to the probability that all the jurisdictions holding to perpetuity will reject it, because two notable instances to the contrary have already happened. Massachusetts and New York have both abandoned the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction and have both affirmed that they will respect the status given to a rejected candidate by the laws of the jurisdiction where he is rejected. We desire to say further, as we have already said, that the limit of five years was taken because that was our law, but we have repeatedly stated that we fully believe that the Grand Lodge of Maine will modify it if that shall stand at all in the way of such a settlement of this question as will prevent discord in the future.

"Our brother accedes to the main point involved, as will be seen by what he has written, and that is really the vital part of the Maine proposition. While we believe that a longer time than one year should be required before any other than the rejecting lodge should receive the petition of a candidate without the consent of the latter, still that is a matter for each jurisdiction to decide for itself.

"We think he misapprehends one point in our last report. We do not object to the law of the Grand Lodge of Vermont in relation to candidates which come from other jurisdictions, except to this extent, that we do not believe that it is according to sound Masonic principle to recognize that a lodge has any jurisdiction over a candidate who has never applied to it, after he removes from its jurisdiction. It was, therefore, on this ground that we objected to the use of the word 'consent'; but we do think that if a man is to be made a Mason in a new jurisdiction in less than a year it would be an act of prudence to ask from the lodge, in whose jurisdiction he had resided, its opinion of his fitness."

Our law is that "no person shall be made a Mason unless he has resided one year in the jurisdiction of the lodge to which he seeks admission, or produces a certificate of character from the lodge nearest to the place of his previous residence," and that no petition from a rejected candidate can be received within twelve months from the date of such rejection. We have had this law for a long time and it has always worked well. We have never heard of any difficulty arising from the one-year limit being too short a time to arrive at a correct knowledge of the character of an applicant. Rejections are not by any means always evidences of demerit, and if any bad material had been admitted in that way it would certainly have been made manifest during the long series of years in which that has been our practice. The conclusion would seem to be that a longer period than one year is unnecessary.

Lodges, 192; members, 22,191; increase, 106.

Joseph A. Locke (Portland), G. M.

Stephen Berry (Portland), G. S.

MANITOBA.

23rd Communication, Winnipeg, June 8, 1898.

Thomas Robinson, G. M.

The duties of the Grand Master were performed in no perfunctory manner. His visits covered a wide extent of country and the lodges must have been greatly benefitted by his numerous lectures on Masonic subjects. A new lodge was opened at Wawanesa. On the state of the Craft, he says:

"It is pleasing to note from the various reports of the R. W. District Deputy Grand Masters that there is a steady increase

in the material prosperity of the Order. Increased insurances on the property of various lodges is a healthy indication of this improvement. Many lodges also have erected, and own, their own halls, thereby establishing a Masonic home in their locality. The establishment of these Masonic homes is to be strongly commended as one of the best means of cementing more closely the associations of the brethren. They will naturally take a greater pride in their own building, more interest in meetings and social gatherings, all of which do so much good in promoting good feeling and making the brethren better acquainted with each other.

"I would specially direct your favorable consideration to the report of R. W. Bro. Dr. R. S. Thornton, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 4. This brother is one of our most zealous and best skilled Masons, takes a very great interest in disseminating Masonic information, and therefore any suggestions from him I know will receive the consideration which they deserve. I have already referred to the lectures given under the auspices of the Winnipeg lodges. It is gratifying to see that the suggestions made by Most Worshipful Brother Locke in his last address in regard to Lodges of Instruction have been duly appreciated, and that there is all over the jurisdiction a greater desire to promote Masonic gatherings, to listen to lectures, discussions on Masonic and kindred subjects, and also social gatherings. There is also a growing desire to associate ladies and friends of the brethren at these gatherings whenever possible to do so. This is an object which I think is to be highly commended. It is in this way that our lodges will become, to quote the words of a distinguished Masonic divine, 'a school for the display of virtue. Temperance, in the restraint that we place on our language and behaviour. Patience, in the industry with which we cultivate a knowledge of ritual, and obedience to the rulers and powers that be. Improvement in social culture and the study of the vast outspreading field of Masonic literature. And what shall I say of friendship? Some of the most treasured friendships of a life have been made in a Masonic lodge. It is one of its brightest phases as we grow older; one, too, that I am sure is the experience of not a few who are here to-day, that we can look back with unalloyed and lasting pleasure on friendships with men, whom we should never have known at all but for Freemasonry.' I am all the more pleased and gratified to impress upon your minds this growing interest in Craft Masonry and its associations, because it is impossible not to feel that Craft Masonry proper suffers somewhat from the attractions of other Masonic bodies. I have never gone beyond the Royal Arch myself, and trust that this will not be taken as any reflection on my part against such bodies. I have a very sincere respect for the other bodies and I cherish the hope that some day I may be privileged to participate in some of their beautiful ceremonies. I can also testify to the fact that brethren who are distinguished in these spheres are, as a rule,

equally distinguished in Craft Masonry and are energetic Masons. On the other hand, my experience leads me to feel that there is a good deal of force in my remarks as affecting the average Mason. A short time ago I strongly advised a young friend of mine, who had just been initiated, not to go into such bodies until he had passed through the offices of a regular lodge, and had so thoroughly grounded himself in Craft Masonry, impressing on him that he would be a better Mason for it, and that the other bodies which his Masonic zeal would eventually lead him to join would be all the more benefitted. I know cases where brethren who have been rushed forward have lost their interest in Masonry largely through the multiplicity of degrees, and the difficulty of a young Mason properly filling more than one office at a time. While this is a matter in which I cannot presume in any way to dictate, I would, however, commend my reflections to your thoughtful consideration."

Steps were taken to establish a fund, of which the interest is to be devoted to the support of aged and disabled Masons.

The Library received a grant of \$200. Under the watchful care of Bro. W. G. Scott, this valuable feature is in a first-class condition, and it should be heartily appreciated.

The Constitution was revised, a large number of amendments being made and among them, the abolition of the Board of General Purposes, its place being taken by eight Standing Committees of five members each. These committee are thus chosen :

" 27. The said committees shall be appointed in the following manner, viz.: At each Annual Communication a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master, one brother from each district represented, who shall be a resident thereof, and three at large; which nominating committee shall immediately, on the declaration of their appointment, proceed to select from among the members of Grand Lodge five brethren to serve upon each of such standing committees, and shall submit such selection for the approval of Grand Lodge. No brother shall be selected to serve on more than one committee. All vacancies occurring shall be filled by appointment of the Grand Master."

Lodges, 59; members, 2,669; increase, 26.

George B. Murphy (Moosomin), G. M.

William G. Scott (Winnipeg), G. S.

MARYLAND.

112th Communication, Baltimore, Nov. 15, 1898.

Thomas J. Shryock, G. M.

We quote the opening paragraphs of his address :

"It is indeed, with sincerest pleasure that I welcome you to this Annual Communication of our beloved Grand Lodge, and to assure you that harmony any peace prevail within our borders. Discord and confusion is, indeed, unknown amongst the Craft. Our lodges are all in a flourishing and prosperous condition; our financial condition is improving gradually; our income is increasing, and our debt is being gradually liquidated. We have passed over the rough road of financial adversity, and are on the highway to prosperity. Nothing, it appears to me, can interfere with our future success and advancement, and the good work to be done by the fraternity in this State for the amelioration of the condition of men must press upward and onward.

"Through the Grand Lecturer I learn that the lodges outside the city of Baltimore are in as prosperous condition as those within its limits, whose prosperity is reported by the Board of Grand Inspectors, who have been attentive to their duty and prompt in the discharge of all work presented to them for inspection."

Two new lodges were formed and also an Army Lodge which the Grand Master afterwards visited at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Among its members are the Grand Lecturer, a Grand Inspector of Workings and a Past Senior Grand Warden.

On the negro question the following resolutions were adopted :

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Maryland hereby reaffirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Lodge Territorial Jurisdiction; that is to say, a Grand Lodge first organized in a State or Territory has the supreme control over symbolic Masonry and is the sole judge of what are, or are not, legitimate Masonic organizations within its territorial limits.

"Resolved, That this doctrine having been acquiesced in by every American Grand Lodge, and the experience of a century having proven that it is a wise and wholesome doctrine, by which the Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony, the Grand Lodge of Maryland views with regret and alarm the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by the recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions of our country.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Maryland fraternally, but most earnestly, trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washing-

ton will, at its next Annual Communication, reconsider said action, and thereby promote that peace and harmony which has ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges."

It was decided to await more specific information before recognizing the Grand Orient of Belgium.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

R.W. Bro. Harry A. Collins, P.D.D.G.M. of Canada, was introduced and received a fraternal welcome.

Notwithstanding the untimely loss of his eyesight and his urgent request to be relieved, Bro. Edward T. Schultz was reappointed Chairman of Correspondence for the thirteenth time. At a special meeting of the Grand Lodge called for the purpose on St. John's Day, a beautiful Loving Cup was presented to Bro. Schultz as a recognition of his long and valuable services. We earnestly sympathize with Bro. Schultz in his affliction and also congratulate him on the evident love and esteem in which he is held by his brethren.

Lodges, 103; members, 7,784; increase, 191.

Thomas J. Shryock (Baltimore), G. M.

Jacob H. Medairy (Baltimore), G.S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At the Quarterly Communication held on June 8, 1898, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

The corner-stone of the new Temple in Boston was laid with the most imposing ceremonies.

Sept. 14, 1898. The following plan for the more rapid increase of the Masonic Education and Charity Fund was ordered to be submitted to the lodges:

"That each and every member of the lodges in Massachusetts under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall pay to the Secretary of his lodge a charity contribution of one dollar per year for ten years, and the amount so collected by the Secretary each year shall be paid by him to the Treasurer of the lodge, who shall pay it to the District Deputy Grand Master at the time that official makes his annual examination of the lodge. In cases where a lodge is obliged to remit the dues of any of its members, the Master and Wardens shall have authority to remit this charity contribution. The Secretary of the lodge shall report such action and the amount so remitted each year to the District Deputy Grand Master of the district in which the lodge is located.

"After the first year, one-fourth of the amount collected the previous year shall be devoted to the relief of worthy desti-

tute Masons, their widows and orphans, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; the balance of the amount collected shall be promptly paid into the treasury of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust, and, together with the interest accruing during the term of the contributions, shall form a permanent constituent part of the principal of the Charity Fund.

"Lodges having calls for charity where the relief needed would constitute an excessive demand upon the resources of the lodge may make application under the seal of the lodge to the Trustees of the Charity Fund for the amount necessary, stating the name of the person for whose relief the money is requested, also the circumstances connected with the case. The sum appropriated by the Trustees of the Charity Fund for such relief shall be sent to the lodge and expended under the supervision of the Master of the lodge."

An eloquent tribute to the memory of Bro. Charles Levi Woodbury, one of their most beloved brethren, who died in July, 1898, was presented by a special committee. "He will always be remembered for the wisdom of his counsel, the warmth of his friendship, the cordiality of his greeting, the brilliancy and wit which have illuminated so many of our festive meetings."

The annual address of the Grand Master was delivered at the Quarterly meeting held at Boston, Dec. 14, 1898, which is designated the 165th Annual Communication.

The Grand Master visited a large number of lodges. Three lodges celebrated their Centennial Anniversaries during the year. Exemplifications were held in twelve districts with good attendance. The new Temple is nearing completion.

The Committee on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on Negro Masonry presented a valuable report, re-stating the facts as to the origin of the present Negro lodges, and concluding with the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, while recognizing the right of the freeborn negro to solicit the privileges of Masonry, as equal to that of the freeborn white man, hereby renews its refusal of Masonic recognition to persons, lodges or Grand Lodges, deriving their Masonic lineage from a certain Prince Hall, who unwarrantably assumed the function of a Provincial Grand Master over this and neighboring States in which Grand Lodges already existed.

"Resolved, That we protest against the recent recognition by the Grand Lodge of Washington of such spurious Masons and Masonic bodies.

"Resolved, That we also protest against the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Washington sanctioning the possible establishment of a Grand Lodge of co-ordinate jurisdiction in that State, based upon principles which we believe would be fatal to the fraternal and social advantages of Masonry.

"Resolved, That we fraternally demand of the Grand Lodge of Washington a speedy reconsideration of its entire action upon the subject of Negro Masonry in the United States."

Lodges, 235; members, 39,334; increase, 849.

Charles C. Hutchinson (Boston), G. M.

Sereno D. Nickerson (Boston), G. S.

MICHIGAN.

55th Communication, Port Huron, January 24, 1899.

James Bradley, G.M.

Our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, was present in his official capacity as the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan and his remarks were received with hearty rounds of applause.

Port Huron is the residence of their oldest Past Grand Master, Bro. William T. Mitchell, who, although over 81 years of age, attended the session to the delight of the brethren.

The address of the Grand Master proves him to be a thorough workman. The Craft has greatly flourished under his supervision. Two new lodges were formed. Their visit to Toronto is thus noted:

"On July 20th, accompanied by the Grand Lodge officers (but two) and P. G. M. McGrath, and brethren from Detroit, Bay City and Port Huron, I visited the Grand Lodge of Canada at Toronto.

"We were met at the depot by R. W. Brother Hungerford (our representative near the Grand Lodge of Canada), and a committee of Past Grand Masters, who took us in charge and escorted us to the hotel, and from that time until we left they vied with each other in doing everything in their power to make our visit a pleasant one.

"We were present at the opening of their Grand Lodge and were received with that cordial welcome our Canadian brethren know so well how to extend. R. W. Bro. Frank T. Lodge, in an appropriate address, presented the Grand Lodge of Canada with a gavel composed of Michigan oak and a part of the boathook belonging to the glg of Capt. Sigbee, of the U. S. S. *Maine*, as a souvenir of our visit."

The Grand Lecturer held 55 Lodges of Instruction during the year. They were all very largely attended,

and much interest was manifested by the brethren. The ten largest schools had an average attendance of 327, and the total attendance was 10,711.

They have lost by death a Past Grand Master, Daniel Striker, and a Past Grand Secretary, Foster Pratt, who was Grand Secretary in 1874, and compiled their first book of laws.

On Negro Masonry the following report was adopted :

"Your special committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington at its last communication, on the subject of Negro Masonry, so-called, beg leave to report:

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on this question is one of great importance to the Grand Lodges of this country, far-reaching in its conclusions and tends to unsettle the Masonic law governing Grand Lodges since 1872. To properly investigate this question and present it to Grand Lodge for action requires far more time than your committee has at its command, as it does not believe in severing Masonic and fraternal relations with a Sovereign Grand Body hastily and without due investigation. Your committee therefore, in the most fraternal spirit of brotherly love, asks our Sister Grand Lodge of Washington, at its Annual Communication, to review its action on this question, and in the interest of harmony repeal its action and spread the cement of brotherly love, that will reunite the great Sisterhood of Grand Lodges into one grand and complete whole, among who no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.

"Your committee, relying upon the kindness and forgiving disposition of this Grand Lodge, which is ever ready to cover mistakes and extend the loyal right hand of fellowship, requests that it have until the next Annual Communication to make its report; and in earnest hope that ere that time the cause for a report will be done away with by the fraternal action of the Grand Lodge of Washington."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and notices Canada for 1898. He gives tables showing "what it costs to run Grand Lodges." The 50 American Grand Lodges vary in the cost per capita from \$6.60 in Idaho to 31 cents in New Hampshire. The average cost per capita is about 90 cents.

Lodges, 388; members, 40,387; increase, 830.

Frank T. Lodge (Detroit), G. M.

Jefferson S. Conover (Coldwater), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

46th Communication, St. Paul, January 11, 1899.

Alonzo T. Stebbins, G. M.

He declined to issue a dispensation for an Army Lodge. He reports three new lodges, one in Minneapolis starting with over 100 members. On one of his visits he conferred the third degree on his only son. The District Deputies are highly praised. More lodges have been visited than ever before and the good results were apparent.

The Grand Master says that the Grand Lodge of Washington has grievously erred in recognizing the Negro Lodges. The Committee on that subject presented the following report:

"The Committee on Ancient Landmarks, to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to the action of the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington pertaining to colored Masonry, have had the same under consideration, and report that they do not feel warranted in passing judgment on said action without full access to the arguments, claims and history presented to that Grand Body, and without time to prosecute a full and fair investigation of the true merits of the case. From the address it seems that the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia and Delaware have taken no action upon this matter, evidently preferring a thorough examination prior to the announcement of conclusions reached.

"So far as colored Freemasonry in this jurisdiction is concerned, its status was fully defined and affirmed by this Grand Lodge in 1877, as appears in the printed proceedings of that year, page 36."

The report on Correspondence by Bro. Irving Todd is a model of condensation. Canada for 1897 and 1898 receives due attention.

Lodges, 211; members, 15,908; increase, 189.

Alonzo T. Stebbins (Rochester), G.M.

Thomas Montgomery (St. Paul), G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

80th Communication, Water Valley, February 10, 1898.

John S. Cobb, G.M.

It gives him great pleasure to state that—

"The Mystic Trowel has been put to its own proper use of spreading the cement of Friendship and Brotherly Love, and has been so little perverted to the unholy purpose of digging out that cement from between the stones that comparatively little call has been made upon the Executive."

Despite the flood and the yellow fever, which thoroughly paralyzed all kinds of business and travel, they are alive, prosperous and happy. These great calamities tested their principles and drew them closer together. Six new lodges were opened. Gratitude is strongly in evidence for the numerous contributions sent in to aid the yellow fever sufferers, and the Grand Master also says that Bro. J. L. Power, their dearly-beloved Grand Secretary—

"Deserves our kindest remembrance and tenderest regard for his able, efficient and untiring services. If he had had half a chance, I think he would have gone into the thickest of the fight to nurse and succor the sufferers."

In Bro. Power's report we find the following testimony of his thorough devotion to duty, even in the midst of danger—an instance of true heroism—and an ability to rise to the occasion not often witnessed:

"Your Grand Secretary was honored by the Grand Master with a commission to represent him at the laying of the corner-stone of the new school building in West Jackson. An elaborate programme of speeches, music, etc., had been arranged, and an elegant copper box had been packed with records of the city, State and country generally; but on the day when all this was to take place, September 14, a large majority of the people of Jackson were leaving town, and they didn't stand on the order of their going. But as the stone was very handsome, from a Georgia quarry, and the inscription declared that it was laid on that day by Grand Master Cobb, I went out there, and with the workmen and a few others as spectators, I laid the stone in the shortest form ever used on such an occasion. Some of the school patrons, after they got back, suggested that the ceremony still take place, but the stone was laid and it couldn't be any laider."

The Digest compiled by Bro. Frederic Speed is to be published and distributed to the lodges. The Grand Secretary suggests that when it gets circulated it shall be "out of order to ask or answer any questions on Masonic law for the next ten years."

A committee was appointed to ascertain the best inducements offered by towns for the location of their proposed Masonic Home.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. Andrew H. Barkley and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 270; members, 9,010; increase, 84.

John M. Stone (Jackson), G. M.

J. L. Power (Jackson), G. S.

MISSOURI.

78th Communication, St. Louis, Oct. 18, 1898.

Flavius J. Tygard, G. M.

Seven State Lodges of Instruction were held by the Grand Lecturer and were well attended. Eight new lodges were formed. The Grand Master refused a dispensation for an Army Lodge. They have 55 District Deputies and they all reported except one. With very few exceptions all the lodges are prosperous.

The following amendment to the Grand Lodge By-laws was adopted by a vote of 140 to 136:

"It is incompetent for any lodge in this jurisdiction to confer either of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry on any person whose physical defects are such as to prevent him from receiving and imparting the ceremonies of the several degrees. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to render anyone ineligible to the privileges of Masonry, who can, by the aid of artificial appliances, conform to the necessary ceremonies."

Objections to advancement are hereafter to stand good for sixty days only.

They have 107 inmates in the Masonic Home. The question of maintaining children and old people together has not yet been fully solved. The year past was successful, with no serious trouble, and the health and happiness of the residents was all that could be hoped for.

The Committee on the Gran Dieta of Mexico asked a continuance until next year, which was granted.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence. Our Proceedings of 1897 have a good notice.

Lodges, 564; members, 31,360; increase, 699.

E. F. Allen (Kansas City), G. M.

John D. Vincil (St. Louis), G. S.

MONTANA.

34th Communication, Helena, Sept. 14, 1898.

Edward C. Day, G. M.

The remarks of the Grand Master on the evil of discussing Masonic matters with profanes are well worthy of serious attention, as this evil is not confined to any one particular jurisdiction, and it should be checked wherever it makes its appearance:

"At home the year has been prosperous. Most of the lodges are in a very healthy condition and peace and harmony prevail. Some few are in a lethargic condition, owing to local causes of depression or changes in membership, while in a few, I regret to say, Masonic trials are creating discord and disorder, which can only be removed by years of earnest work and a forgiving spirit. There is an alarming increase in the disposition to discuss Masonic matters in public. Rarely does it happen that differences in the lodge are not known by the general public as early as by the members. The secrets of the ballot are no longer securely guarded, and brethren who express an opinion upon Masonic matters are often called to task by profanes for such expressions. Brethren, this evil has grown too large. It must be stopped at once or radical measures will have to be used to check it. The brother who exposes to a profane the results of any proceeding pending before a Masonic lodge is guilty of a violation of his Masonic obligation, and it is only the charity of his brethren that permits such action to go unpunished. It is such conduct as this that brings scandal upon the Order. Permit me at this time to recall to you the language of 'The Ancient Charges,' governing your conduct in the presence of strangers not Masons. 'You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honor of the Worshipful Fraternity.'"

Five new lodges were opened, the largest number in any one year in their history.

They have 657 bound volumes in their Grand Lodge Library, including a full set of the valuable publications of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati.

The Grand Orient of Belgium and the Grand Lodge of Egypt were recognized.

A proposal to reduce the representation in Grand Lodge was lost.

The completion of Bro. Cornelius Hedges' twenty-fifth year of service as Grand Secretary was worthily annotated by an increase of salary and by the presentation to him by the Grand Lodge of a silver inkstand, with warm expressions of love and esteem. May his shadow never grow less.

His review of Canada for 1897 is courteous and fraternal.

Lodges, 47; members, 2,850; increase, 144.

Charles W. Pomery (Kalispell), G. M.

Cornelius Hedges (Helena), G. S.

NEBRASKA.

41st Communication, Omaha, June 15, 1898.

John B. Dinsmore, G. M.

He decided that a man who is on a saloon petition is not a fit man to be made a Mason, and also that it is unmasonic for a Mason to sign a saloon petition. We presume that these decisions are in logical sequence with their previous action on the liquor question, but they carry the interference with the liberty of the subject to a further extent than has hitherto been done, and here it would be deemed entirely unwarrantable.

The Grand Master also decided that a lodge could suspend a brother who asks in open lodge to be suspended because he was unable to pay his dues. Sooner than have had the reputation of procuring such a ruling, we would have passed round the hat and placed the brother in good standing.

The Grand Custodian held 42 Lodges of Instruction of three days each, four of two days each, and he visited twelve lodges singly. The lodges are generally prosperous and have plenty of work.

The Jurisprudence Committee brought in majority and minority reports on the "saloon" decisions mentioned above, and after a general discussion the matter was postponed till next session.

Lodges, 229; members, 11,775; increase, 12.

Frank H. Young (Broken Bow), G. M.

William R. Bowen (Omaha), G. S.

NEVADA.

34th Communication, Carson City, June 14, 1898.

Albert Lackey, G. M.

The Craft is fairly prosperous and the work is well performed, but lacks uniformity. On the motives for rejection, Bro. Lackey says:

"While a Mason has the undoubted right to use the black-ball without having his motive questioned or the fact inquired into, yet he should never allow his personal feelings or prejudices to carry him so far as to cast a negative ballot upon the application of one whom he knows to be worthy.

"When a brother enters a lodge he should leave in the outer world all questions of sectarianism, business rivalry, personal prejudice and ill-will, and regard applicants for our mysteries for their qualities of mind and heart, and deal as justly with them as we are taught to do in personal business relations, and to vote without fear, favor or prejudice, but alone for the good of the fraternity."

The Gran Dieta of Mexico and the Grand Orient of Belgium were both recognized.

Bro. A. D. Bird reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 20; members, 837; increase, 5.

Matthew Kyle (Virginia City, G. M.

Chauncey N. Noteware (Carson City), G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

31st Communication, St. John, August 23, 1898.

Thomas Walker, G.M.

Harmony prevails. The Grand Master made a number of official visitations and found the work generally well done.

The subject of the decreasing membership in the lodges was referred to a special committee, who reported as follows:

"Your committee, to whom was referred decrease in membership, beg leave to report as follows:

"1st. That the falling off in membership is due to lack of interest, which leads to non-payment of dues, suspensions, retiring on demit, etc.

"2nd. Past Masters having no official duties lose their interest.

"3rd. Members are made without being called upon to pass examinations.

"4th. Officers are advanced who do not make an effort to get up the work, the only object being to get through the chair.

"5th. That Grand Lodge is not made interesting enough to members.

"Therefore your committee would make the following suggestions:

"1st. That Worshipful Masters be requested to see that no candidate be advanced who has not passed a successful ex-

amination; that no appointive officer be advanced who is not posted in his work, and that he personally interest himself in seeing that the members attend; that in the absence of degree work the Worshipful Master instruct the lodge, calling upon Past Masters as much as possible to assist him.

"2nd. That the Board of General Purposes be authorized to engage a Lecturer, whose duty it will be to visit, instruct, and aid in every way subordinate lodges.

"3rd. That your committee is of opinion that monthly or quarterly collection of dues would be beneficial, and that the relief from dues after twenty-one years is good.

"4th. That Grand Lodge meet in the morning, getting through with routine work, and giving as much time as possible to discussion on the Order; that while exemplifying degrees is entertaining, the time might be spent more profitably.

"5th. That as it is generally believed the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia is running on successful lines, your committee would suggest to the Board of General Purposes that they send a committee of three to the next meeting of Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia with instructions to get all possible information and report to this Grand Lodge.

"That your committee, while personally satisfied with the present plan, believe that the itinerancy of Grand Lodge would be beneficial, and recommend that the Board of General Purposes take this matter into consideration."

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

Lodges, 32; members, 1,757; decrease, 24.

Thomas Walker (St. John), G.M.

J. Twining Hartt (St. John), G.S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

109th Communication, Concord, May 18, 1898.

Henry A. Marsh, G.M.

On their proposed Masonic Home, he says:

"I had hoped to be able to report to the brethren at this time that the whole amount necessary had been raised for the construction of a suitable building for a Masonic Orphans' Home, upon a lot which has been purchased in the city of Manchester, by the trustees of the corporation, with the tacit understanding that the brethren of Manchester should pay for the lot.

"At the Semi-Annual Communication in December I conferred with as many of the Masters of lodges as could be conveniently assembled, and several of them pledged their lodges to raise a sum equal to \$1.00 for each member.

"Since that time I have received notice from four lodges that an amount equal to or in excess of \$1.00 per member has actually been raised and is subject to the order of the Grand Master, to be used for the construction of a building upon

land free from encumbrance. I have information from other lodges that apart of the money has been paid or pledged, and I doubt not that by earnest efforts, properly directed, the Home can be completed within the next year.

"Brethren, it is my deliberate judgment that the consummation of this work has been too long delayed. The good name of the fraternity demands that if the Corporation of the Masonic Orphans' Home, in its semi-official character, is unable to complete the work which it undertook more years ago than I am willing to mention at this time, the Grand Lodge should take up the project and push to an early completion this work of love and charity, which must commend itself to the heart of every Mason."

The valuable reports of the District Deputies show faithful performance of their important duties. The lodges are in good condition and the utmost harmony prevails.

In his review of Maine, Bro. A. S. Wait has the following remarks on the powers of the Grand Master. The ruling formerly criticized was one in which the Grand Master ordered a lodge to change a sentence it had imposed on a conviction:

"We do not doubt and we have never questioned the power of the Grand Master, everywhere, to arrest the charter of a lodge. He is the depositary of that power. But it is vested in him not for the gratification of his own will, but to be exercised with judicial views in accordance with the principles of the institution, and the broad foundations upon which it rests. We were by no means arguing, as Brother Drummônd supposes, from the standpoint of a technical lawyer, nor deciding anything by the rules of civil law. We were appealing to that reason which underlies all law, and moves the breast of every enlightened man—that reason upon which rests all regular government of every kind. To vest a Masonic lodge with authority to decide judicially, and then if the decision does not square with the views of another, to visit with the capital penalty of having its charter taken, away is not only the essence of injustice, but a plain and pure contradiction. It enjoins judicial duties, and at the same time denies the power to decide—even worse, it treats the decision as a crime, however honestly it is made. We deny that there is, or ever was, any such Masonic law. We affirm further, that with such a law understood and generally acted upon, Masonry, as now constituted, could not, and ought not, to exist.

"What we here insist upon is not merely the rule of civil law, it is the rule which must dictate the structure, and has always dictated the structure of all institutions among civilized men. It is the Masonic law because it is the law of right reason; and it is the civil law from no other reason. There are certain technical rules affecting procedure in our civil

courts, which have grown up from a variety of special causes, and which are inapplicable to the Masonic institutions, and ought not to be applied in the administration of its affairs. But the great principles of justice are eternal and universal, and are common to Masonry with civil and all other institutions. The ruling which we have criticized was in our opinion essentially unjust, and therefore wrong. If the same thing had been done in New York (which if so is to us a marvel) we say the same thing. The Grand Master is undoubtedly vested with great powers, but, as we have said, he is supposed to be the person with whom they may be safely lodged.

"Oh! it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it as a giant."

"But we do not need to elaborate the argument; our former observations have been extensively quoted, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that they are approved by some of the ablest Masonic jurists and writers of our time."

Canada for 1897 receives a good notice.

Lodges, 77; members, 9,224; increase, 113.

John McLane (Milford), G.M.

George P. Cleaves (Concord), G.S.

NEW JERSEY.

112th Communication, Trenton, January 25, 1899.

Josiah W. Ewan, G.M.

On the subject of special dispensations, the Grand Master says:

"In refusing permission to lodges to wear Masonic clothing in attendance at Divine service, I have simply followed the precedent established, in recent years, by my predecessors, and in which I fully concur, believing that the sentiment of this Grand Lodge is opposed to Masons appearing in Masonic clothing at any time other than at strictly Masonic functions.

"On the first of August I received a request for dispensation to hold an impromptu Blue Lodge among the officers of the United States Army, as a 'novelty.'

"I could not see my way clear to sanction a Masonic 'novelty,' hence respectfully declined to grant the dispensation.

"In April last certain brethren, residing at Schraalenberg and Ramseys, in Bergen County, intimated a desire for the formation of new lodges at these places.

"I very decidedly discouraged the applications, believing that the time was not ripe for the establishment of any more lodges in that locality, and the brethren have evidently acquiesced in this opinion.

"I have observed a growing tendency on the part of lodges to ask for all sorts of permissions or dispensations.

"The only dispensations for which a fee is charged in New Jersey are for the formation of a new lodge and for conferring two or more degrees at the same communication, for which a fee of \$20 is collected. I have collected for such dispensations the sum of \$100, which I have forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

"A very frequent request is for dispensation to hold the annual election and installation of officers at a time other than provided by law.

"The usual reason for the latter request is that the Worshipful Master is incompetent to qualify his successor and is unable to do so until he can secure the presence of his District Deputy or some competent Past Master to perform the duty for him.

"It is the duty of the Worshipful Master, and his alone, to qualify his successor, and it is just as essential for him to qualify himself to perform this duty as it is for him to be able to confer the degrees or open and close his lodge.

"From the number of these requests, I am led to believe that the Worshipful Masters of some of our lodges are truly mindful of the Scriptural passage, 'Ask and ye shall receive.'

"I would suggest a new reading of the above: 'Ask and ye may receive a dispensation on payment of \$10 for same.'

"On these terms I believe the Past Master degree will be acquired by many Worshipful Masters and the Grand Master, and the District Deputies relieved of much labor, from which the Grand Lodge derives no benefit."

A general improvement is noted in the work of the lodges and in the attendance at the District Lodges of Instruction.

The new Masonic Home at Burlington was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. They have already 23 inmates.

It was decided that applicants for waiver of jurisdiction must possess the same physical qualifications as required by those applying for initiation and their eligibility must be determined in the same manner.

A special report by the Committee on Correspondence was presented on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, recognizing certain Negro Lodges. This report, concluding with the following resolutions, was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge, thus declaring non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington:

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of Washington, by its recognition of irregular and clandestine Masons, has placed itself without the pale of regularity; in the assent it has volunteered in preparing

the way for the formation of clandestine lodges, and a Grand Lodge within the occupancy of its own territorial jurisdiction to the detriment of the Masonic fraternity and to the confusion of interests in other Masonic jurisdictions with which alliance has been of mutual accord; by assalment of the principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty, in an association abhorrent to the Craft of regular Free and Accepted Masons, by which it has itself derogated to the condition of clandestinity.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge reiterates the irregular and clandestine status affixed to certain men claiming to be Masons at the Annual Communication of 1871; in avowment of the preservation of legitimate Masonry, and the purity of its source, essential to true Craftsmen, hereby orders the severance of fraternal relations and intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and the members thereof. This interdict to be of immediate force."

It was deemed inexpedient at this time to enter into fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of Belgium or the Grand Lodge of Peru.

We regret that the late reception of these Proceedings prevents us from doing justice to the admirable report on Correspondence by Bro. George B. Edwards. Canada for 1898 receives due mention.

Lodges, 168; members, 16,970; increase, 426.

Josiah W. Ewan (Mount Holly), G.M.

Thos. H. R. Redway (Trenton), G.S.

NEW MEXICO.

21st Communication, Albuquerque, Oct. 3, 1898.

John W. Poe, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

"All things considered the year just closed has, I believe, been a fairly prosperous one for the Craft in this jurisdiction. I think so because of the increased interest, and more healthy tone generally manifested, by the lodges, and especially the weaker and more isolated ones. Some of these which, one or two years ago, were seriously considering the surrender of their charters seem to have found new courage, and are hopefully looking forward to a brighter future. This I think may be accounted for in the main by the greatly improved business conditions of the past year within our Territory. We are at peace with all of our sister jurisdictions. Harmony is the rule within our own. A majority of our lodges are making a healthy growth in membership, and, judging from reports I have received and from my own observations, the material which is being brought up is good and desirable."

The Districts were reduced in size and increased in number, in order to allow for more effective supervision.

The Grand Lecturer sent in his report from Dawson City, in the Klondike region, and in it he says

"Here, in this far-off land, I meet brethren from every point of the globe; nowhere that I have been have I seen so clearly made manifest the universality of Masonry. The ties that bind us seem stronger here than at home. No doubt because we feel more strongly our interdependence upon each other."

The following report was adopted on a ruling of the Grand Master as to the Masonic burial of a suicide:

"We agree with the Most Worshipful Grand Master, that there may be circumstances attending a suicide when it would not be improper to accord the deceased a Masonic burial. It is probably better not to attempt to lay down any hard and fast rule on this subject, and to leave each case to be determined according to the peculiar circumstances surrounding it. Suicide may be committed by a Master Mason under such circumstances as to make it a crime which would bring shame upon the Craft. It was recognized as such under the common law of England, but it must not be forgotten that a much more lenient view is taken of it as the world has grown to be more charitable and tolerant. A suicide might also be committed by a Mason under such circumstances as to appeal to the charity and sympathy of his brethren, and under such circumstances as to make the denial of the right of burial a punishment to those who survive him instead of to the deceased."

The report on Correspondence is by Bros. Max Frost and W. H. Seamon. Bro. Seamon reviews our Proceedings of 1897 and says that the reports of our District Deputies are models of excellence.

Lodges, 20; members, 881; increase, 28.

Robert C. Stewart (Socorro), G.M.

Alpheus A. Keen (Albuquerque), G.S.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proceedings from June, 1897, to June, 1898.

Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., G.M.

Quarterly Communication, Sydney, Sept. 8, 1897.

A proposal to donate \$5,000 from the Fund of Benevolence to the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution was ruled out of order by the Grand Master, mainly on the ground that by the terms of the Constitution the Board of Benevolence is to distribute this charity itself and not to transfer it to any other body for distribution and more

especially not to one outside of the control of the Grand Lodge.

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Lodge of Portugal.

Steps are to be taken to incorporate the Grand Lodge.

Dec. 8, 1897. The request for recognition from the Gran Dieta of Mexico was not entertained.

A Master was fined two guineas for refusing to allow a member to speak before the minutes were put for confirmation.

March 9, 1898. The Grand Inspector of Workings found the work in the lodges very satisfactory and a general improvement in the business.

June 8, 1898. The request of a lodge to be allowed to meet on Sundays was very properly refused.

In his review of Canada for 1897, Bro. John B. Trivett has the following :

"The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are very voluminous, occupying a considerable portion of the volume. These reports should be read as widely as possible, being most instructive and pleasant reading.

"It is evident that these officers occupy positions of great power and usefulness. They are expected to report on the membership, degree work, meetings held, attendance, relief granted, finances, prospects, and also as to the master's efficiency, and, in fine, to discuss anything and everything which can affect a lodge's welfare. In a large country, with a scattered population, the advantage of having such officers is at once apparent."

Lodges, 184; members, 6,847; decrease, 86.

Arthur H. Bray (Sydney), G.S.

NEW YORK.

117th Communication, New York, June 7, 1898.

William A. Sutherland, G.M.

The visits of the Grand Master were productive of an increased interest among the workmen. Their numbers have been augmented, harmony prevails, and the "greatest human agency for good the world has ever seen" is steadily advancing. Two new lodges were formed, one in New York named in memory of the Italian patriot, Mazzini, and the other by brethren of Scottish descent in Brooklyn named Kilwinning.

The District Deputies and Staff Officers proved them-

selves to be a band of workers scarce equalled and never excelled.

There are 221 inmates in their Masonic Home and the staff numbers 31. The current expenses for the year were \$38,838.26.

The following report of the Finance Committee was adopted:

"The suggestion of the Most Worshipful Grand Master regarding our brethren in the Island of Cuba, touches a tender point in our hearts. 'He who gives quickly gives twice.' It is, therefore, the sense of this committee that the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) be placed to the credit of the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, to be drawn upon by them at sight, for the purposes indicated; we feel that the time will soon come when our brethren in Cuba can receive, as they should receive, the assistance of their brethren who are firmly bound to the principles of brotherly love and relief."

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Orient of Belgium.

In his review of Idaho, Bro. Jesse B. Anthony has the following on non-affiliation:

"The Special Committee appointed last year to consider the subject of non-affiliates and non-payment of dues, made an extended report. The principle that every Mason should belong to a lodge no one will gainsay, but that compulsory measures will tend to remedy the evil we very much doubt. You can 'lead a horse to water, but you cannot compel him to drink.' There is a large number of unaffiliated Masons in all jurisdictions, but in most instances it is a condition of their own choice. Wherein they are a 'serious menace to the welfare of the fraternity' we are unable to comprehend. A large percentage of this class never should have been made Masons and are no advantage to the Craft, except as additional units. Loss of interest causes many to drop out and this arises from the fact that many lodges are simply mills for manufacturing Masons. Another factor, and a very important one, is the negligence in the collection of dues as they accrue. The correction of these faults and an earnest effort to make a lodge a place of interest, sociability, and the cultivation of the principle of helpfulness will operate more to the diminution of the growth of this class than any radical legislation.

"As to the 'honor they enjoy of being Masons,' it appears to us that it is a very questionable honor. The deprivation of the benefits of membership, the right of any claim for assistance or burial, would seem to be a condition wherein their being Masons in name is of no practical advantage to them, and no impediment to the welfare of the Craft."

Canada for 1897 has a good notice. Bro. Anthony

informs us that under their revised Constitution, perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates has been done away with, being limited to twelve months, as it is with us.

Bro. Emil Frenkel contributes a most interesting account of the usages and customs in German Lodges:

"Before entering upon the reports of the various German Grand Lodges, a comparison between the lodges and the lodge work in the old Fatherland and our own customs might not be out of place, the more so, as some of the different features are perhaps not generally known and their knowledge may be agreeable to both our English and German-speaking brethren, in case they should have occasion to pay a fraternal call to some of the German lodges.

"To start with the petition of a candidate, it takes a much longer time until the request for membership is acted upon; so thorough are the preliminary inquiries into the character, standing, business connections and social life of the petitioner, that it is by no means unusual to see nine months and even a year elapse before the result is positively known, and ordinarily, at least six months pass, before a candidate is initiated. The only exception is made with sons of members of the same or other recognized lodges, who form, so to say, a preferred class, while ordinarily nobody can be proposed unless he is of age, the son of a Mason can be initiated as soon as he has completed his eighteenth year.

"The proposition having come before the lodge, the ballot is spread in the usual way, and if only one black ball is found, the candidate is declared elected. If two black balls should have been cast, the W. Master will ask the two brethren, who have so voted, to call on him privately during the next few days and give an explanation of their action. If the Master finds that the reasons advanced are good and sufficient, he will, at the next meeting of the lodge, declare the candidate rejected; if, on the other hand, he thinks that the grounds upon which the black ballots were cast were frivolous and not justified from a Masonic standpoint, he will state at the following communication that the candidate is elected. Three black balls reject.

All business transactions of the lodge are held while the lodge is open in the first degree, and every entered apprentice is considered a member of the lodge, entitled to all Masonic rights and privileges, except that of holding office, and he may be heard and may vote upon any question before the brethren. The 'Fellow Craft' and 'Master Mason' degrees are only worked for the advancement of members once or twice during the year, and under ordinary circumstances it takes about two years to be promoted from one degree to another.

"It is customary to appear in full dress and high silk hats in a German Masonic lodge, the Master alone being uncovered. Besides being clothed with the apron and white gloves, all

German Masons wear the jewels of their lodge while at work, and it is usual for the family of a Mason to return both apron and jewel to the lodge after his death. In many lodges the candidate, on the occasion of his initiation, is presented with two pairs of white gloves, one pair being for his own use, the other for his wife, so that she should also be made to understand the importance of the step which her husband has taken. The Master of a German lodge is usually elected for a term of three years, but his election must be approved by the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction his lodge works, before he can hold office; if the Grand Lodge should not be in session at that time, a committee thereof, appointed for such purpose, will decide whether the choice of the brethren is in accord with the sentiments of the Grand Body; and if not, a new election is ordered. It has repeatedly happened that a prominent and liberal-minded brother, elected to fill the chair in the East, could not be installed, as the choice of the lodge was not sanctioned by the Grand Lodge. It may be, that to meet such hardships and alleviate the naturally hurt feelings of an otherwise prominent Mason, the title of 'Honorary Master' was created in some German lodges, which, if conferred, makes the recipient a Worshipful and grants him the privilege of a seat in the East. In the absence of the regularly installed Master, a Deputy Master, also elected in the usual way, governs the deliberations of the lodge, and only in his absence the Wardens succeed in the order of their respective stations to the prerogatives of the presiding officer.

"Clubdom not being quite as general in the Old Fatherland as in England and the United States, the lodges on the other side take to a great extent the place of social organizations, and as a matter of fact, in small German towns the Masonic lodge represents indeed a social club of the strictest exclusiveness. Most lodges own their buildings, usually beautifully situated and surrounded by large gardens, and while a part of the roomy salons is set aside for the lodge work proper, another portion is entirely given up to the social intercourse and pleasure of the members and their families. At least twice a year (on the St. John's Festivals) large banquets are given, where the wives and daughters of the brethren participate, and after they have left the festive board the young folks claim the rest of the evening for dancing.

"Among the most magnificent lodge rooms, both in appointments and decorations, that have come under the observation of the writer, the home of the Grand Lodge 'Royal York zur Freundschaft' in Berlin deserves mention, and it may be added that all Masonic property (real and personal) is free from taxation in Prussia, under a charter given to the Masonic fraternity by their generous protector and brother, Frederick, the Great. In smaller towns, where no lodge exists, and none can be established on account of the expense, we find, nevertheless, the resident Masons frequently associated in regular Masonic circles, where, of course, no ritualistic work

is done, but where the social side of our Masonic institution is as fully developed as in the larger cities. These social unions put themselves usually under the protection of a lodge of a neighboring city, whose stated communications are attended by the brethren, if time and circumstances permit. Thus these visitors often become what they call 'permanently visiting brethren,' a status of affiliation entirely unknown to us. For instance, a brother belongs originally to a Frankfort lodge, but is compelled by business reasons to change his residence to Berlin, where he begins to visit a lodge under a different jurisdiction. In course of time, if his presence is agreeable, he will be asked to become a 'permanently visiting brother,' in which capacity he is not only entitled to be heard on any question, but also has the right to vote on ordinary matters and at elections; he cannot, however, ballot on candidates. He can hold some of the minor offices—those of Master, Deputy Master, and Warden always excepted. The permanently visiting brother, on the other hand, never ceases to be a member of his Mother Lodge, but is required to pay annual dues in both—the lodge he hails from and the one he visits.

"While we thus see that a great many things in the organization as well as in the work of the German lodges differ from our customs, the noble spirit of Masonry, the sublime principles and philanthropic teachings of the fraternity are always the same wherever we go, and wherever we turn. The friendly grip, the willing and helping hand, and the open heart of the true Mason will be found from one end of the globe to the other, making Freemasonry one of the most important educational factors in the promotion of human welfare not only in this century, but for all time to come."

Lodges, 743; members, 95,480; increase, 2,209.

William A. Sutherland (Rochester), G.M.

Edward M. L. Ehlers (New York), G.S.

NEW ZEALAND.

Annual Communication, Christ Church, April 28, 1898.

William Barron, G.M.

The terms of recognition proposed by the Grand Lodge of England and accepted by the Grand Lodge of New Zealand are given in full as follows:

"That the Grand Lodge of New Zealand shall in future be the recognized Grand Lodge for the Colony, including all the five districts heretofore holding under the English Constitution, and all other parts of the Colony.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master will in future grant no warrant for a new lodge within any of such districts or elsewhere within the Colony of New Zealand.

"The Grand Lodge of New Zealand will not, nor will its

Grand Master, grant any new warrant for any lodge out of the five districts referred to, or the Colony.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master will give authority to all lodges at present holding under the Grand Lodge of England to meet and decide in open lodge whether or not they desire to tender their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; such meeting to be specially convened on not less than 21 days' notice, for the purpose of determining this question; and no other business save that and, if requisite, of disposing of the assets and property of the lodge, shall be considered at the meeting.

"A majority of two-thirds in number of the brethren present shall be required to enable the lodge to tender its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; all other questions at the meeting shall be decided by a majority of the brethren present in the usual way.

"The result of the meeting, with copies of the resolutions passed thereat, shall be forthwith sent (in duplicate), verified by the signature of the Master in the chair, and countersigned by the Secretary, to the District Grand Secretary, and to the Grand Secretary at Freemasons' Hall, London.

"In case the lodge shall resolve to tender its adherence to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, the Warrant of Constitution must be forthwith returned to the Grand Secretary for cancellation.

"The lodge has full power to dispose of its property and records as the majority decides, but the Most Worshipful the Grand Master strongly recommends that the lodge minute book and the Treasurer's books and accounts shall remain with the lodge under whichever Sovereign Body it elects to continue, in order that the continuity of the lodge and the rights of members dependent on their being subscribing members should not be imperilled for want of these records on any future occasion.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Master will be prepared to consider with favor any application for the return of a cancelled warrant that the lodge may wish to retain as a memorial of its former connection with the Grand Lodge of England.

"No second meeting of a lodge which has come to a resolution to continue under the Grand Lodge of England can be held without the special leave of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Master will consider any district in which fewer than three lodges may continue under their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, to be ipso facto dissolved; but, subject hereto, the lodges under the English Constitution, both private and the District Grand Lodges, will continue as at present, and remain unaffected by this recognition.

"All brethren who shall continue members of lodges under the English Constitution shall be fully recognized by the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and no brother shall incur any

Masonic censure by reason of his adhering to either allegiance, or of any part he may have taken on either side in the formation or establishment of the new Grand Body."

The reports of the District Grand Superintendents show that they visited all the lodges, that all are in a healthy and prosperous condition and making satisfactory progress. Five new Masonic Halls were erected.

As might be supposed from the lodges working so lately under different jurisdictions, there is considerable diversity in the ritual, one Superintendent saying that "the actual work is as varied as opinion." The Board of General Purposes was instructed to consider the advisability of adopting a uniform ritual.

The Committee on Past Grand Rank presented an elaborate report. From the replies received from other Grand Lodges it is evident that there is no universal Masonic custom as to the conferring of this distinction. Many Grand Lodges have no rule or practice in the matter. One thinks it illegal; one fictitious and not truthful; one ridiculous and not creditable; while others have no hesitation in granting the honor. Two Grand Lodges object to other Grand Lodges conferring Past rank, while three would not criticize such acts by other Grand Lodges. Others think that the distinction should be limited to members of Grand Lodges other than the one conferring the favor, while one Grand Lodge has repeatedly conferred such rank upon its own members.

The new Grand Master is the Right Honorable Richard John Seddon, the Premier of the Colony.

His address on his installation is thus summarized:

"Bro. Seddon referred with telling effect to the fact that in the establishment and building up of this Grand Lodge the predictions of disruption had all been falsified; the rocks and shoals of finance had been avoided, as the balance-sheet so amply demonstrated. A reduction in the fees had been urged, but after careful consideration he had come to the conclusion that this would be at present an unwise step. He referred to the great numerical strength of the New Zealand Grand Lodge as compared with other constitutions, to the recognition by the Grand Lodge of England as a deeply gratifying fact, and to the strong grip of loyalty to the Mother Land that existed in the mystic tie. In eloquent terms he advocated full and free communication between all lodges, and dwelt upon the characteristics that should be found in all true Masons—men amongst men, charitable, upright. The strength of Masonry was not to be looked for in numbers, but in moral status. It

would be his earnest endeavour to leave the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, when his term of office expired, in a better position than he found it."

Semi-annual Communication, Napier, Oct. 26, 1898.

The question of ritual was left in abeyance for future consideration.

Three new lodges were opened and a fourth transferred its allegiance from the Scotch Registry.

Lodges, 111; members, 4,549; increase, 271.

Right Hon. R. J. Seddon (Wellington), G.M.

Rev. William Donaldson (Dunedin), G.S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

112th Communication, Raleigh, January 10, 1899.

Walter E. Moore, G.M.

The general progress has been very satisfactory. The officers and members have shown a desire and earnestness to learn the work and good work has been done. Two new lodges were formed and three dormant lodges revived.

The Oxford Orphan Asylum is now caring for 217 children. The per capita expense for the year was \$67.10. The sum of \$2,500 was voted to its assistance.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, Master Masons, their wives, daughters, sisters and mothers are the only persons eligible to membership in Eastern Star Chapters, as are now being organized in this State; and,

"Whereas, We believe that such Chapters will greatly increase the income to our great charity, the Oxford Orphan Asylum; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the organization of Eastern Star Chapters be encouraged throughout this Grand Jurisdiction."

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported at length on the Negro question, and their conclusions were adopted as follows:

"Resolved, That the Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina be directed to notify the Grand Master of Masons in Washington that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina has suspended all fraternal relations and Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington; that its representative near this Grand Body be requested to withdraw his credentials, and the representative of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina near the Grand Lodge of Washington is requested to return his credentials, and is no longer empowered to represent this Grand Body near that jurisdiction.

"Resolved further, That the North Carolina lodges are instructed not to admit to Masonic intercourse any Mason who is a member of any lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"Resolved, further, That this step is taken not in anger, but in sincere pain, and that the Masons in North Carolina earnestly trust that the Grand Lodge of Washington may in its discretion see fit to rescind its former action and to return to the ancient landmarks, which, in the opinion of the Masons of North Carolina, have been invaded."

In his notice of Canada for 1897 and 1898 Bro. John A. Collins says that we still set the pace for other jurisdictions in the matter of practical benevolence.

Lodges, 307; members, 10,954; increase, 454.

R. J. Noble (Selma), G.M.

J. C. Drewry (Raleigh), G.S.

NORTH DAKOTA.

9th Communication, Fargo, June 21, 1898.

Robert M. Carothers, G.M.

He reports two new lodges and also one military lodge attached to a battalion of troops from their State in the Philippine Islands. The Grand Lodge approved of his recommendations in this matter by the adoption of the following report:

"Masonry teaches us that it is the duty of all Masons to be loyal and true to the government under which they live; that patriotism, the love of the country, is the highest and noblest and best quality of the human heart. We, therefore, most heartily recommend the unanimous approval of the action of and recommendations made by our Most Worshipful Grand Master relative to the granting of a dispensation for a military lodge in the Philippine Islands, and that the dues of all Masons, members within this Grand Jurisdiction, while in the military service of the United States during the war with Spain, be remitted, and their lodge be relieved from paying Grand Lodge dues on them during the continuance of such service."

The following report was also adopted:

"Your Committee on Morals and Dogmas respectfully recommend that each particular lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction be required to present to each Master Mason hereafter raised, and at the time of raising, a copy of the Morals and Dogmas of the Symbolic Degrees, as compiled by our late Bro. Albert Pike, with a promise from the candidate that he will read the same at his earliest opportunity. Said copy of Morals and Dogmas to be paid for by the lodge."

Lodges, 50; members, 2,871; increase, 169.

George H. Keyes (Ellendale), G.M.

Frank J. Thompson (Fargo), G.S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

33rd Communication, Lunenburg, June 8, 1898.

Thomas B. Flint, G.M.

The Grand Master is also a member of the Dominion House of Commons. His record of visitations is extremely creditable, considering that his parliamentary duties removed him from the jurisdiction for four months. He has a pleasant mention of the dedication of the Masonic Hall at Ottawa. The lodges are prosperous, harmony prevails and a spirit of helpfulness and ambition to improve characterizes the membership.

The Committee on Maritime Union presented the following report:

"To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia:

"The committee appointed at the last meeting relative to forming a union of the Grand Lodges of the Maritime Provinces have failed so far to get this very interesting matter in a satisfactory position.

"It is needless to point out the many great advantages that would flow from such a union. From a conference held last year with some of the leading brethren of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, we have reason to believe that the Grand Lodge would be willing for union, but your committee are of the opinion that much difficulty and opposition would be experienced from our sister Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, although we are glad to say a good many of its members favor the union, which your committee think would be of great advantage to the Craft.

"Your committee would recommend that the same committee be continued, and report at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge."

Bro. T. V. B. Bingay reviews Canada for 1897 and says:

"The reports of the several D. D. G. Masters are voluminous, and show their duties were performed in a zealous and painstaking manner. We note that their duties consisted in the inspection of the work as shown in the ceremonies of opening and closing in the several degrees, the conferring of degrees, the reviewing of the O. B.'s, the exemplification of the esoteric work, and inquiry into the financial and general condition of each lodge.

"We feel somewhat ashamed to think of the frequent references made by D. D. G. Masters in our own jurisdiction to

difficulties entailed in reaching some of the isolated lodges, when we find that one of these brethren of Canada traveled over 2,000 miles and was absent from home thirty days and nights in the discharge of his duties. It is gratifying to know, however, that travelling expenses are paid by the lodges visited." * * *

In reviewing the Proceedings we cannot but be impressed by the heavy amount of work performed in the two days' session of the Grand Lodge, a proof of the high executive and business ability of those who have the administration of its affairs in their hands.

Lodges, 61; members, 3,383; decrease, 26.

Thomas B. Flint (Yarmouth), G.M.

Hon. William Ross (Halifax), G.S.

OHIO.

39th Communication, Columbus, Oct. 19, 1898.

Nelson Williams, G.M.

The lodges have been active and prosperous. The District Lecturers visited all the 500 lodges except 27, at a cost of \$1,202.21, and the average cost per lodge was \$2.55. Three new lodges were formed. On the issue of special dispensations, the Grand Master says:

"I have issued 106 dispensations during the year, and have declined to issue almost as many more. A list of those issued is herewith submitted, to be printed in the Proceedings. Many requests have been made for authority to confer degrees in less than the time prescribed by the code, all of which I have refused. These requests have been more numerous than of late years, and more urgent, because of the enlistment in the army of many petitioners, and of brethren who had only taken one or two degrees. I should gladly have issued these dispensations had it been consistent with my understanding of the policy of this Grand Lodge. No landmark of our Order is more clearly established than the one which invests the Grand Master with the prerogative to grant such dispensations; but for more than thirty years our Grand Masters, nearly all of whom are still living, have refused to grant them, because they believed that hasty work was not for the best interests of the Craft. With an abiding faith in the judgment of these distinguished brethren, I have made the rule inflexible. I had one request for a dispensation to enable a lodge to hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing to membership a brother who had been holding a dimit from the lodge for fourteen years, and who was on his deathbed, and wanted to affiliate in order that he might die a Mason. To this request I responded that the present Grand Master is not a firm believer in deathbed repentance."

Three of the decisions of the Grand Master contain new points:

"1. In answer to the question, 'Is an hermaphrodite entitled to receive degrees conferred by a Masonic lodge?' I held: The Ancient Constitutions provide that an applicant for Masonic degrees must be a man. An hermaphrodite, according to the books, is not a man, but a monstrosity, and therefore can not properly be made a Mason." * * *

4. Held: "That while Freemasonry prides itself upon adhering closely to the old forms and ceremonies, it must, to some extent, keep step with scientific development, and the growing conveniences of the age, and, as the lights about the altar are mere representatives of other lights, electric bulbs may be substituted for the burning taper or the gas-jet."

"10. In answer to the question by telegraph, 'Can Masonic funeral service be held over a Master Mason in good standing, if body is to be cremated?' I replied: 'Yes; if necessary, change phraseology of funeral service.' I was unable to find any decision on this question by this Grand Lodge. Some neighboring jurisdictions and some able Masonic writers have taken a contrary view of the matter. My research was of necessity limited, as a reply was asked by wire, and the decision was given as my best judgment at the time. I am still satisfied as to the correctness of the decision. Free Masonry is universal, and will survive the ages. It recognizes no man for his worldly wealth or honor. It questions no man as to his political belief or religious faith. If he recognizes the existence of a Supreme Being, it takes him as he is, a living man, and requires of him no pledges as to the disposition of his body after death. Neither does it make any requirement relative thereto. It gives him the assurance that if he be in good standing at the time of his death, he is entitled to a Masonic burial. And what is a Masonic burial? In what does it consist? In nothing more than reading our funeral service over the body of a deceased brother, and dropping on his coffin the evergreen as an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul? And what is our funeral service, or ceremony? It is no part of Freemasonry. It is not mentioned in our Ancient Constitutions, and was not thought of until years after the revival of 1717. The ceremony has been given to us in order that we may, in a public and suitable manner, testify to our appreciation, as Masons, of the character of the deceased brother, and pay his memory that respect to which it is entitled. And to do this, is it necessary that the body be actually deposited in the earth? We think not. Some of our most renowned men and Masons are sleeping in sepulchers and mausoleums, some above and some below the surface of the earth, and yet no one has denied them a Masonic burial. It is quite common to deposit the bodies of our fellow-men in vaults for weeks after

death, and then privately inter them. Is it possible that Masonic brethren may not read their ceremony over these bodies before the doors of the vaults close upon them, shutting them out from the gaze of the public forever! And if this may be done, why may we not pay our last tribute to the dead before the doors of a crematory close upon his body forever? If it be contended that the ritual of the Third Degree symbolizes the literal burial of the body, may it not with equal force be claimed that it symbolizes the literal resurrection of the body, and yet no one seriously advocates this at the present time.

"The body is placed in the grave to molder and decay, and after long years to dissolve into dust or ashes. By cremation the dissolution of the body, and consumption of the gases, take place at once. The end is the same—ashes! I do not want to be understood as favoring cremation; but I believe there is no Masonic law, or reason, which will prevent a Masonic lodge from reading the funeral service over a body which is to be cremated."

We have no objections to cremation, and on sanitary grounds it is to be preferred to burial. The Masonic funeral service can easily be adapted to the circumstances.

There are still some 38 clandestine lodges in Ohio, and the Grand Master found it necessary to issue an edict of warning against them. He also says:

"I desire to urge the officers and members of the subordinate lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction to be ever watchful and vigilant in excluding from their lodges these spurious Masons. We have nothing in common with them. If they can find either glory, honor, or satisfaction in maintaining an opposition Grand Lodge, which is spurned by every Grand Jurisdiction in America, let them have it; but see to it that they do not share with us that glory, honor and satisfaction which true Freemasonry in Ohio has won by ninety years of steadfast devotion to the principles and landmarks of the Order."

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

On the question of the physical qualifications of candidates, the following deliverance was adopted:

"Resolved, That a candidate for the Degree of Entered Apprentice should be able physically, as well as intellectually, of himself, and without exterior aid or assistance from another, to receive and impart all the essentials for Masonic recognition; and the question as to his sufficiency in such respects is a subject presented to the lodge petitioned for its determination."

Membership was renewed in the General Masonic Relief Association.

The sum of \$6,000 was voted to their Masonic Home,

and the per capita tax in aid of that Institution was increased from fifteen cents to thirty cents.

Bro. W. M. Cunningham prefaces his most valuable report on Correspondence by the following letter from that distinguished and eminent Mason, Bro. William James Hughan, of Torquay, England:

"In response to the invite of the esteemed chairman of the committee, I have pleasure in writing a few thoughts on the Report on Foreign Correspondence. The whole volume published for the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and ably edited and in part compiled by the Grand Secretary, for the year 1897-8, is a remarkable work, and most creditable to all concerned, from the first page to the last; the tables are very valuable for reference, and the Report on Correspondence is one of Bro. Cunningham's best.

"More than twenty years ago I wrote articles in the Ohio Annuals, when my old friend, Bro. Caldwell, was Grand Secretary, so this is not my first venture in that direction.

"First of all, let me say I do not believe in the recognition of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, and so am one with all those brethren who recommend leaving that organization alone, alone for the time at least, until it is purified, and becomes thoroughly Masonic. As Bro. Cunningham says, 'There is no necessity for any haste in that formal recognition,' and to my mind hasty recognition of any body is to be deplored, especially one with such a past as the one of Mexico.

"As to 'Cerneauism,' the pages devoted to that subject (422-6) have given it a quietus, from which it can not rise again. Undoubtedly there is a wide distinction between a clandestine Freemason and one that is simply irregular. The latter may be healed, but assuredly not the former; for such a one is a Cowan, wholly outside the pale of the Craft, and always must be until accepted and initiated de novo. In the olden days Cowans were never recognized by the genuine operatives, and so never 'healed.' Their only place was outside the lodge, permanently and irrevocably.

"In respect to Masonic processions in Craft clothing, I published, many years ago, a still earlier instance than the one quoted from my lamented friend, 'Vernon's History;' viz., 20th of January, 1708, at Alnwick, North of England: Records of an old lodge there, with minutes from 1701-3. (Freemason, 1871.)

"'It was Ordered that for the future noe member of the said Mar Wardens or fellows should appear at (any) or the Lodge to be kept on St. John's Day in Christmas without his apron and Common Square fixt in the Belt; . . . that a sermon be p'vided and preached that day at the Church by some clergyman at their appoint'mt where the Lodge shall appear,' etc.

"Since then this valuable minute-book has been reproduced by the Rosecrucian Brethren of the Province of Northumber-

land and Durham (Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1895); but there is no word therein as to the corner of apron being tucked up. I have never known it done by or for a Master Mason, but for Apprentices or Fellow Crafts, those of the Third Degree wearing the apron in full form.

"Bro. Greenleaf's report for Colorado is well worth quoting from and contains many points of special interest. The portions referred to, however, though not occupying much space, are so suggestive that I almost fear to glance at the questions discussed, because of lack of time and fear of occupying too much space.

"Bro. Conder's history of the 'Masons' Company' is most valuable, especially as it traces speculative Freemasonry back to 1631 and earlier; but as respects separate degrees (as with all Masonic records of that century), the matter is left undecided, as there is not a single minute which mentions a separate Master Mason's ceremony in those old records, as Bro. Conder frankly acknowledges. Neither two or more degrees are noted, but only positions or rank.

"As to there being no speculative Masonry prior to 1717, it is not worth refuting, the evidence being so ample and convincing of gentlemen being initiated throughout the seventeenth century in England and Scotland; but the crux is to find a minute of an Esoteric Degree being communicated during that period, from which Apprentices were excluded. There might have been such, but there is no evidence; so it is equally true that there might not have been. So far we know not.

"The Book of Constitutions, 1738 (England) was as regular and as authorized, until superseded, as was its predecessor, from 1723 to 1738, and its successor, from 1756 to 1767, and so also the issue of a new title-page of 1746, else being quite the same as 1738.

"Under Louisiana, I should like to point out to the veteran reporter, Bro. Fellows, that though the 'Ancients' of England had the Royal Arch from their first organization in 1751, the 'Moderns' had worked that degree before then, so that the 'Ancients' had not the monopoly of Royal Arch Masonry, as some claim, during that decade, as it can be traced back some ten years earlier, when the 'Schismatics' did not exist. Neither am I aware of any Grand Lodge anywhere working three degrees, that can prove that either directly or indirectly it does not owe such knowledge to the Premier Grand Lodge of 1717.

"Under Massachusetts, it seems to me a good decision that 'a reasonable amount of music adds very materially to the impressiveness of our services.'

"The P. M. Degree, noted under Missouri, raises an important inquiry, and one that requires delicate handling. In England and Scotland that fanciful ceremony is dropped for a real ceremony on Installation of a Master. It seems to me wise to keep all degrees of a chivalric character quite distinct from the Craft, and hence I do not agree with the view expressed, under New Hampshire, as to 'vouching,' and it is doubtful,

also, as to the position advocated under Oregon. In England three can hold a warrant, but there must be five brethren—not necessarily members—to hold a lodge, and seven to initiate, according to our oldest unwritten laws.

"But I must conclude, as my time is up. I thank Bro. Cunningham most warmly for his capital report.

"W. J. HUGHAN."

Canada for 1897 receives an extended notice.

Lodges, 500; members, 42,848; increase, 1,135.

E. C. Guilliford (Cleveland), G.M.

J. H. Bromwell (Cincinnati), G.S.

OKLAHOMA.

6th Communication, El Reno, February 8, 1898.

Albert W. Fisher, G.M.

He reports the lodges in good condition and two new lodges.

The jurisdiction is to be divided into four districts, one to be under the supervision of each of the four principal Grand Officers, who are to visit and inspect all the lodges.

The Entertainment given to the Grand Lodge by the members of El Reno was enlivened by a serenade from a Band composed of full blood Arapahoe Indian Students of the Arapahoe Indian School.

Lodges, 33; members, 1,456; increase, 137.

Enoch M. Bamford (Guthrie), G.M.

James S. Hunt (Stillwater), G.S.

OREGON.

48th Communication, Portland, June 15, 1898.

W. H. Hobson, G.M.

Most of the lodges are prosperous, but a few are retrograding. Two new lodges were formed.

Bro. W. T. Williamson, the Grand Orator, delivered a very eloquent address, from which we are able to quote as follows:

"Members of the mystic Craft well know that the mysteries of the ancient fraternity are largely based on the building of King Solomon's temple. In the learned writings much is said of this temple, its dimensions and construction, and that it was the first building of significance erected by Masons. The name Solomon is very suggestive, being a combination of three names for deity, taken from the Latin, the Hindoo and the Egyptian, as a combination of different names for the sun,

which to all early races was the visible representation of the invisible God. And, need we wonder if that glorious sun, the source of vivifying glory, of animated incandescence, where every passion and every energy of the universe might have had its birth, where the winds might borrow their storms, the thunder find its livid bolts, earthquakes their resounding footsteps, and war and pestilence draw their subtle shafts—need we wonder that for ages this source of light was enshrined in the hearts of mankind as at least a type of deity?

"And this combination of names suggests the thought that reference is had to a mythical personage representing that Great Light in Masonry, which, when once permitted to illumine the mind of the faithful Craftsman, makes all things plain. We may then have reasonable doubts as to whether King Solomon of the mysteries is the same person as Judea's great king.

"Symbols and allegories are of inestimable value to thinking men. In the investigation of their true meaning, we must be governed by the single principle that the whole design of speculative Masonry, as a science, is the elicitation of Divine truth. In this we progress toward the perfect character. It is always progress, onward and upward. Pythagoras laid down the precept, 'When travelling turn not back, for if you do, the furies will accompany you.' And the Divine Master taught that 'No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of heaven.' Man's destiny as an immortal being requires him to ascend, step by step, until he has reached the summit where the treasures of knowledge await him—that hieroglyphic bright, which none but Craftsmen ever saw.' These symbols and mysteries, constituting so much of the family history of Masonry, must have intelligent interpretation; otherwise, if taken in their naked, literal sense, they are barren and unworthy of labor. It is not enough to pass through the initiation, ascend the winding stairs of knowledge, and live over again the occult features of erecting Solomon's temple—and then forget what purpose and progress are brought into being in the ceremony. It is not enough that we become familiar with the text of our ritual, to repeat it from first to last fluently. Such an one is often called a bright Mason, but the brilliancy may be all superficial. Unless we have penetrated to the inner meaning, absorbed the mysteries and enunciated the import of symbols, we have failed to find the pearl of great price which the ancient masters wrapped up in the rites and ceremonies, through which we have been privileged to pass.

"For instance, much of tradition and teaching accounts the building of King Solomon's Temple as the beginning of Freemasonry. Though certainly an important event in Jewish history, notably as a revelation from God Himself, drawing the plans on the trestle-board for the Master in charge to direct its creation—yet much of this is mythical. In the first place, the dimensions of this temple are conceded to be not in

harmony with the highest order of architecture then extant, being confessedly of awkward outline, and lacking symmetry. The details of the Egyptian temples, though it is curious that they had not discovered the arch in architecture, and also of temples in America before the white man came here—their Cyclopean structure required a far greater knowledge of mechanics than was needed to build the temple at Jerusalem. Studying the temples in Greece, the beauty and harmony of design surpass that displayed in Solomon's Temple. One might believe on examining the Cathedral at Cologne that there a supernatural architect had laid the plans and shaped the outlines—much more likely, at least, than that divine suggestion had shaped Solomon's Temple, when the latter is obviously inferior, as it is also to that built at a later date by Herod. Yet, illuminated by the instructive glow of speculative Masonry, and taking these lessons as symbolic, they become invested with a splendor and dignity, with beautiful and lofty conceptions, that could not be enriched or increased if these immaterial points were historical facts. In living over and over again the instructive drama incident to its erection, we are each time building anew in our hearts, under direct divine guidance, the true temple of Solomon, the real Masonic edifice, a perfect character. This also is erected without the sound of ax, hammer or any tool of iron, because the passions symbolized by iron are mastered, and compelled to serve. And, in this connection, it is interesting to remember that, while Free and Accepted Masonry exists in all civilized and in many uncivilized lands, yet the story of Solomon's Temple is known only among Jews, Christians and Mohammedans. Withal, the ritual in any one country is similar to that prevailing among Masons in other countries, and professing other religions; so that a Mason can make himself known in any part of the world. Indeed, our great light in Masonry, the Hebrew Bible, is replaced in other lands by other media for transmitting the effulgent splendor of divine symbolism on the trestle-board; as the Koran in the Mohammedan, the Vedas in the Brahmin, and the Zend Avesta in the Parsee. Yet the bond of brotherhood is wider and stronger than the limitations of religious creeds, and the Moslem, Jew, Buddhist, Brahmin, Parsee and Christian all sit side by side, in perfect peace and harmony, acknowledging the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe as the Common Father; and they may, indeed, have no uniform great light on the altar, as in fair Cathay, among the disciples of Confucius." * * *

"To approximately follow numbers through their significations is too great a task, as they become instinct with an import that carries them into nearly all the walks of life. The odd and even numbers, or the opposites, with their combinations, were claimed to be the base of all things. The place of honor is accorded to the odd. 'One' is reason, is unity. The three, five and seven steps include much. We have the three great lights and the three lesser lights, three movable and

three immovable jewels, three articles of furniture, three ornaments, three principal rounds of Jacob's ladder, three principal officers in a lodge, three principal supports, three degrees, three stations of the sun, three colors in the covering of the lodge, three great Masonic tenets, three working tools for the fellowcraft, three original orders of architecture, etc., etc. Then we have the five orders of architecture, the five senses of human nature, and the five-pointed star as a symbol of the five points of fellowship. Seven, without factors or product, is also, esoterically and otherwise, of much significance. Instance the seven-branched candlesticks, the seven steps of the Masonic ladder, and the seven liberal arts and sciences which, after the second pause, related to the seven steps. Then the whole number of steps, fifteen, was a sacred number among the Orientals, being cabalistically symbolic of the name of God, because the letters of the holy name were, in their numerical value, equivalent to fifteen. Indeed, every article of Masonic appointments is sanctified with the thoughtful reverence and study of thousands of years ago, embalmed in the memories of the purest thinkers of ages long gone by, and pregnant with intellectual lessons, not always learned by the self-sufficiency of to-day. The essential part of the old wisdom can be apprehended still, unless we have eyes that see not, and ears that hear not. The various emblems each teach a sublime lesson. The altar, a perfect cube, anciently taught as the shape of the universe, lighted by three lights, teaching the sevenfold nature of man; the square, referring to the animal or passionate nature of man, and the triangle to the divine man, of which nature the pyramid is an enduring symbol. Unfold the cube, and we have the cross, the universal emblem of self-sacrifice, the higher offering itself to lift the lower, again symbolized in the Masonic square. The cube is the unmanifest universe, as yet only a waste of waters—the spirit of God moved on the face of the deep, and God said, 'Let there be light, and there was light'—the cube disappeared and the rose cross took its place, the emblem also of immortality, a lesson taught in the Masonic rites so plainly that all Masons have come to know, in some sort, that the highest joy is in the service of those who suffer. And these lessons inhere in every Masonic feature. As the name Mason indicates, the Order is one of builders, but just what they propose to build is not always understood; and, unless this great body of to-day has a living purpose ever animating it, it stultifies the aims of its continued existence. Evolved, then, away back in the dim, misty past, perhaps thousands of years before the Star of Bethlehem led the magi of the East to the manger where Jesus was born, a past when Ephesus, Damascus and Baalbec were yet unknown, Speculative Masonry was faithfully teaching man through its tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, to build in his heart a true temple—a perfect man. As centuries came and went, despite all changes, this central idea never disappeared, was never idle, and Operative Masonry lent

its majestic aid in symbolizing with object lessons, explaining and illustrating, until the initiated walked in a world which was literally one cradle of learning. Each age brought forth more, so that now, with the accretions and additions of all time, the sun by day and the stars by night reveal the book of nature, and the creatures of art, with all the material, all the tools, and all the labor, to erect the magnificent edifice, each for himself, and ever assist his brother.

"Hence, my brothers, let us all be more delighted to learn, and relearn, all which our noble Order has to teach; to pierce beneath the external to the internal; to practice in the world the lessons we learn in the lodge, so that when the Grand Master inspects the work at the East gate of the Temple, and we stand before the full glory of the risen sun of Truth, we may present square and perfect work, and pass, unhindered, to the Holy of Holies.

The proposition from Maine to limit the effect of a rejection to five years was approved by the Committee on Law and lies over until next session.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was negated by the adoption of the following report:

"1. That every Mason is under equal obligations to relieve the distress of a worthy brother according to his necessity and his own ability to contribute.

"2. That the right of a distressed worthy brother to claim relief grows out of the fact of his being a Mason and not out of the fact of his having contributed to the funds of any particular lodge.

"3. That the association of Masons for the purpose of forming and maintaining lodges in no manner relieves them from their individual charitable obligations, and that when they act as a lodge their duty and, therefore, that of the lodge, is precisely the same as that of an individual Mason. That Masonic relief is never purchased or sold; therefore never creates a debt."

Subordinate lodges are forbidden to become incorporated.

Honorary membership was abolished.

Bro. Robert Clow reports on Correspondence and reviews our proceedings of 1897.

Lodges, 101; members, 4,946; increase, 40.

John B. Cleland (Portland), G.M.

James F. Robinson (Eugene), G.S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

This bulky volume contains the record of four Quarterly Meetings in 1898 and the Annual Communication on December 27th.

The Grand Master, William J. Kelly, exercised his privilege of making Masons at sight. At a Grand Lodge of Emergency, with 33 lodges represented, he gave the three degrees to three candidates. No reason is given why these parties could not have joined a lodge in the usual way.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

A handsome "Loving Cup" was presented to Bro. Thomas R. Patton, in recognition of his faithful services as Grand Treasurer for 25 years.

The Committee on Correspondence made a special report on the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, taking the ground that a Grand Lodge which recognizes and fraternizes with a clandestine lodge or its members, thereby makes itself clandestine. The report was adopted unanimously with the following recommendation:

"The Grand Master of Washington asserts that their action in this matter is a matter of 'internal affairs' and 'private judgment,' and so it is. But it is also a matter of external or foreign concern in its effect upon other Grand Lodges when it trenches upon their jurisdiction and authority. The Grand Lodge of Washington must recognize and fraternize with either one or the other of the Grand Lodges in this jurisdiction, but it cannot maintain fraternal relations with both. Having recognized a Grand Lodge in this jurisdiction which is clandestine, it has given us cause of complaint which our self-respect compels us to notice and govern ourselves accordingly.

"We therefore recommend that fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington be suspended until that Grand Lodge shall have withdrawn its recognition of the clandestine lodges in this jurisdiction."

A new proof of the antiquity of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been found in the archives of the American Philosophical Society, of which Bro. Benjamin Franklin was the first President. It is an account book of Franklin's, commencing in 1730, and the entries show that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was in active life prior to September, 1731.

The Grand Master reports four new lodges. He issued an edict forbidding Masonic intercourse with a resident who had been rejected twice in Pennsylvania and who went abroad and was made a Mason in Scotland. The debt of the Grand Lodge has been reduced during his two years of office by the sum of \$153,650.00. It now stands at \$258,150.

The Committee on Correspondence consists of five members and they all share in the work. Bro. Michael Arnold is the Chairman. A very favorable review of Canada for 1898 is by Bro. James M. Lamberton. The public installation of officers is justly condemned by both Bro. B. W. James and Bro. Lamberton.

Lodges, 433; members, 53,100; increase, 1,057.

Henry W. Williams (Philadelphia), G.M.

William A. Sinn (Philadelphia), G.S.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

23rd Communication, Summerside, June 24, 1898.

Leonard Morris, G.M.

An emergent meeting was held on Oct. 13, 1897, to celebrate the Centennial of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Charlottetown.

The Grand Master visited a number of lodges and reports them in fair condition and holding their own in membership. A new lodge was opened at Cape Traverse.

Lodges, 13; members, 525; increase, 44.4

Leonard Marris (Summerside), G.M.

Neil MacKelvie (Summerside), G.S.

QUEBEC.

29th Communication, Montreal, January 24, 1899.

E. T. D. Chambers, G.M.

They have reason to be congratulated on the progress of the Craft in a jurisdiction where the majority of the population are enjoined by their religious superiors to be hostile to the Fraternity. We quote one of the opening paragraphs of the able address of the Grand Master:

"It is estimated that our institution to-day includes 1,365,000 members. Thirty years will have elapsed in the month of October next since the foundations of the Grand Lodge of Quebec were firmly and enduringly laid by the fathers of this Grand Body, of whom a few remain to this present, though the greater number have fallen asleep. The 21 lodges which united on the 20th of October, 1869, in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, contained but a very limited membership. Ten years ago the number of these owing obedience to this Grand Lodge was 2,820. To-day I am proud to be able to report that we have 56 chartered lodges, and two under dis-

pensation upon the register of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, with a total membership of over 3,400, which, in view of the peculiar circumstances operating against us in the Province of Quebec, may certainly be considered a remarkable showing. Well, indeed, did the Architects and Builders of this Grand Lodge design and execute their working plans."

On the situation between Quebec and England, the Grand Master relates some correspondence and then says:

"In accordance with M. W. Bro. Walkem's request, I have issued instructions for the deposit, in our archives, of the copies of his letters, forwarded me by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master. Their publication, as Bro. Walkem points out, would not contribute to the furtherance of that Masonic unity and concord which we all so much desire. M. W. Bro. Walkem's mediatorial efforts have fallen short of the hoped-for result through no fault of his. His correspondence shows that he has exhausted all the means at his disposal for removing the Masonic differences existing in this jurisdiction. In these efforts to promote the welfare of the Craft at large, he has spared neither time nor expense. Nor is this all. He states that if he can be of any further service as a negotiator, he will be only too happy to act. His labors merit the gratitude, not only of this Grand Lodge, but of all who are interested in the union of Masonic work and influence, and the unity of the jurisdictional government of the Craft. Much good work for the betterment of the race, on the part of both moralists and philanthropists, would be far more effective than it is, but for those unhappy divisions that interfere with a proper unification of energy and action.

"The Grand Lodge of Quebec has long and strenuously endeavored, by all the means at her disposal, to attain the end to which M. W. Bro. Walkem's efforts were directed. The sovereignty of this Grand Lodge is so firmly established and so universally recognized that its dignity can no longer be affected by circumstances over which it has no control, or a division which it has done its best to heal. I am thankful to say that our relations with our brethren of the English lodges in this city are at present those of amity, peace and fraternity. Nothing further would seem to remain to us than to await with patience the healing effects of time. Animated by the same zeal, moved by the same impulses, devoted to the same objects, bent upon the same beneficent mission, and combatted by the same hostile influences as we are, our brethren of the English lodges in Montreal are still separated from us; though to them the dividing line may appear but the narrow veil of jurisdictional sentiment. While wishing them well we cannot conceal the fact that there are obstacles enough to the progress of the Order in Quebec without the added difficulty and paralyzing influences of a jurisdictional dividing line; and that the lessons of Freemasonry will be best both exemplified and

taught by a perfect solidarity of all the lodges, in addition to our present unity of sympathy and purpose.

"I have the honor to recommend that an expression of the thanks of this Grand Lodge be forwarded to M. W. Bro. Walkem for his efforts as mediator between us and the Grand Lodge of England in the matter of the three lodges in this city still holding warrants from that Grand Lodge."

A new lodge was formed at Agnes, Lake Megantic.

A resolution was passed expressing the deep sympathy of the Grand Lodge with M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, P.G.M., who was absent from the session owing to serious illness. We sincerely join in their hope that he may soon be restored to health:

The following resolutions were adopted:

"That whereas, It is advisable in the interest of the Craft in this Masonic Jurisdiction, that the control and charge of the Masonic Temple in the City of Montreal should, as far as possible, and as soon as circumstances will permit, pass into the hands of this Grand Lodge;

"And whereas, It is advisable that the acquisition of the Masonic Temple should be secured in such manner as will comprise as a part of any arrangement leading to that object, the founding of a permanent Benevolent Fund, to be devoted to giving aid, succor and relief, to poor and distressed Masons within our jurisdiction;

"It is resolved, That at its next Annual Communication, this Grand Lodge consider, and if approved, carry into effect a resolution appointing trustees, who will be authorized to receive from brethren, owners of the stock in the Montreal Temple Company, any such stock they may desire to transfer to the Grand Lodge, in furtherance of the objects of this resolution;

"And it is further resolved, That, at the next Annual Communication, a resolution be proposed, and, if approved, carried into effect by altering or amending the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, so as to secure an annual contribution from each and every member of a lodge in this jurisdiction, of ten cents per month, to aid in establishing a permanent Benevolent Fund, the amount so collected to be applied in securing the property of the Temple Co., and all the revenues accruing thereto, such revenue to be distributed equitably for the purpose of relief and assistance to the needy, sick or distressed Masons in the different sections in the Province;

"It is also resolved, That in order that the subject matter of this resolution be brought prominently before each member of the Craft, the incoming officers of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby requested, to place this resolution before them by a circular, or, through the Grand Lodge officers, as soon as they may deem it convenient and advisable, in order that the whole subject will receive from the Craft at large the consideration it deserves."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Will H. Whyte and is fully up to his usual high standard. Our Proceedings of 1898 are fraternally noticed.

Lodges, 57; members, 3,643; increase, 53.

Benjamin Tooke (Montreal), G.M.

John H. Isaacson (Montreal), G.S.

RHODE ISLAND.

108th Communication, Providence, May 16, 1898.

Cyrus M. Van Slyck, G.M.

We take the following paragraphs from his excellent address:

"It is with peculiar gratification that we note a steady and healthy growth in our mystic art. Shown, perhaps, most strikingly in the fact that the brethren in the city of Pawtucket have recently moved into a magnificent and convenient Masonic home, and that the brethren in the city of Providence have even more recently re-established themselves in their commodious structure erected upon the site of the Freemasons' Hall, destroyed by fire March 19, 1896. The Masonic Temple in Pawtucket and the Freemasons' Hall in Providence are noble monuments to the zeal and devotion of the members of our ancient fraternity, and striking evidences of the prosperity of our Order." * * *

"It seems proper that I should state now that my personal opinion is that the use of robes or special costumes is extremely inappropriate in a symbolic lodge. Bro. Mackey says: 'A proposition was made in the Grand Lodge of England on April 8, 1778, that the Grand Master and his officers should be distinguished in future at all public meetings by robes.' 'This measure,' Preston says, 'was at first favorably received, but it was, on investigation, found to be so diametrically opposed to the original plan of the institution, that it was very properly laid aside. In no jurisdiction are robes used in Symbolic Masonry.'

"It would be unfortunate and a great mistake to depart from the uniform simplicity which has characterized Freemasonry in New England, and in seeking after theatrical display to an innovation likely to result in jealous contention between lodges of unequal financial ability." * * *

"Remembering at this time some of the differences that have been submitted to my official determination, and recalling the manner in which they have been submitted, I am profoundly impressed that the tenets of Freemasonry have a present vital force, not merely theoretical and sentimental, but exerting a practical and beneficial influence upon the lives and conduct of those who profess it.

"The great principles which lie at the foundation of our Order, brotherly love, relief and truth, in a broad and liberal

sense, will be found to be the great principles underlying advanced civilization and social progress. The genius of Freemasonry is the genius of a free and enlightened people.

"Remembering the universality of Freemasonry, may we not believe that it is to the truths taught in our assemblies that the world is indebted for the unusual and glorious spectacle of a nation entering upon an armed contest, not for pecuniary gain, not for territorial aggrandizement, but for the relief of a distressed people, recognized as brothers, because the children of one Almighty Father?"

"It is a solemn thought which should be constantly with us, who have been chosen to legislate for and watch over the interests of our beloved institutions, that upon us rests the responsibility of so legislating and so caring for those interests that our Masonic light may shine with a radiance divinely pure, and the tenets of our institution be transmitted unimpaired from generation to generation."

A revised Constitution was adopted.

The Grand Master prohibited the use of the stereopticon pictures in degree work.

Lodges, 37; members, 5,164; increase, 47.

Cyrus M. Van Slyck (Providence), G.M.

Edwin Baker (Providence), G.S.

SCOTLAND.

The imposing list of Office-Bearers contains a Patron, the Prince of Wales; the Grand Master, Lord Saltoun; four Past Grand Masters; the Grand Master Depute; the Substitute Grand Master, and a long list of Provincial Grand Masters.

They have Quarterly Communications on the first Thursday in February, May, August and November and an Annual Communication for the election and installation of officers on the Festival of St. Andrew, November 30th.

The list of lodges is headed by Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, then there are three lodges bearing the number one, the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), Melrose St. John, and Aberdeen. No. 2 is Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh, then two number threes, Scoon and Perth; and The Lodge of Glasgow St. John. No. 4 is Glasgow Kilwinning.

There are 616 lodges on the roll, of which 205 are located out of Scotland. The names of these locations form a striking illustration of how Scotchmen have conquered

the world. They are as follows: India, Queensland, New Zealand, Western Australia, Hawaiian Islands, Cape Colony, Natal, The Transvaal, Orange Free States, Rhodesia, Mauritius, West India Islands, Trinidad, Bahamas, Bermuda, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, Peru, Chili, Nicaragua, China, Japan, Egypt, Danish West Indies, Fiji Islands, Syria, Asia Minor, British Guiana, and the Republic of Columbia.

At the meeting on February 2, 1899, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized. A motion that Grand Lodge, in opening and closing, use the old Scottish knocks in the various degrees, was negatived by a vote of 304 to 78. The work of the lodges is generally good and in some cases shows a marked improvement over previous years. A new lodge was chartered in the Transvaal.

At a visitation to the lodge at Ayr, the Grand Master gave an address from which we take the following:

"There have been already three visitations to this Province by three separate Grand Masters, and I make the fourth, which shows that since you became a Provincial Grand Lodge you were not ashamed to show to the highest in authority what you had done. I have learned several things in connection with this Province, which have greatly interested me, amongst others the fact that you have a bursary fund. I am bound to say such an idea never entered my mind. I had in my mind that the erection of Masonic schools should be encouraged in this country, and I think your proposal is unique in Scottish Masonry. All credit is due to you for it. There is another thing I should refer to, and that is that each lodge in your Province is endeavoring now to procure for itself a place of meeting outside licensed premises. I think that this is a most important thing. This beautiful lodge room in which we are now is an example of what may be done by a lodge. Out of the large number of lodges in this province very few meet in places of public entertainment. I trust that the others will also in time find quarters in some other place. Build halls and so forth. You have done a great deal in the way of laying foundation stones and taking part in public functions, which goes to show the outside public that Freemasons are a body of men who are to be dealt with, and that they give honor to any public entertainment to which they give their patronage. I am glad to learn that the average number of Intrants in the lodges in the Province is 200. All the lodges are in a most satisfactory state."

On August 4, 1898, a Grand Lodge presentation was made to their able and highly esteemed Grand Secretary,

D. Murray Lyon, on the completion of his 21st year of service.

Rt. Hon. Lord Saltoun (Philorth, Fraserburgh), G.M.

D. Murray Lyon (Edinburgh), G.S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

122nd Communication, Charleston, Dec. 13, 1893.

Jacob T. Barron, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

"While in some lodges, and even in some sections of the State, Masonry is not flourishing as it should, I am glad to be able to report that, as a rule, we see much that is encouraging, and in many instances satisfactory. I find that the officers are becoming more familiar with the revised ritual, and, as a natural consequence, the attendance is generally larger, and more interest is displayed. The extreme low price of cotton, causing a 'financial depression' that is painfully felt throughout our State, has no doubt kept down a large increase in our membership; but I have great faith in the happy results sure to flow from a uniform ritual and the visits of Grand Lodge officers to subordinate lodges. I do not attach much importance to numbers. Instead of taking membership as the evidence of our condition, let us remember that it is only when we reflect in our daily lives the teachings of our noble Order, that we can truly say we are prosperous."

The District Deputies rendered valuable assistance, visiting most of the lodges and keeping in touch with their requirements.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Washington having seen fit, at its last Annual Communication, to pass a resolution recognizing as legitimate the Negro Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina wishes to express its most unqualified condemnation of this action, and hereby severs all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington and its subordinates."

Bro. Charles Inglesby presented an excellent report on Correspondence. Our Proceedings of 1897 are well noticed. He says that there is a Grand Lodge in Mexico which is fighting the Gran Dieta, and which claims to have a large and influential following. "The smoke of the contest still obscures the Mexican Masonic field, and we will wait until that has entirely cleared away."

Lodges, 185; members, 5,840; decrease, 13.

Bartlett J. Witherspoon (Lancaster), G.M.

Charles Inglesby (Charleston), G.S.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Half-yearly Communication, October 20, 1897.

Rt. Hon. S. J. Way, G.M.

The Grand Master is the Chief Justice of the Colony. On his visit to England, he had presented to the Queen the joint address of all the Australian Colonies. The Grand Lodge of England had conferred upon him the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden.

A new lodge was opened at Snowtown.

During the half-year 54 petitioners were relieved from the Benevolent Fund to the extent of \$700. Monthly payments are being made to six widows and two brothers, amounting to \$45 per month.

Annual Communication, Adelaide, April 20, 1898.

In the report of the Board of General Purposes, we find the following:

"The balance to credit of General Fund is £244 19s. 1d.; Available Benevolent Fund, £662 19s. 10d.; Permanent Benevolent Fund, £1,155 10s. 10d.

"The Trustees of the Freemasons' Hall property submit their balance sheet at 31st December, 1897, which shows a balance to credit of £10,672 14s. 9d. on revenue account. The total value of the assets of the trust is £14,738 7s. 11d.

"In consequence of the annual income of the General Fund of Grand Lodge having been for some years less than the expenditure, the amount to the credit of the fund has been considerably reduced. The Board has, therefore, had under its consideration the question of either increasing the income or decreasing the expenditure. At this juncture the Grand Secretary has voluntarily offered to accept a reduction of £25 per annum in his salary for two years. The Board, although loth to accept this sacrifice on his part, has availed itself of the offer, and trust that together with the exercise of more strict economy in other respects, the receipts and expenditure may be made to balance without increased contributions being required from the lodges. It will be remembered that at the establishment of the Grand Lodge the contributions of the lodges to the General Fund was fixed at 1s. per quarter per member, but some years ago this was reduced to 9d., and it is hoped that there will be no necessity to revert to the old scale of payment.

"During the past half-year 55 petitioners have been relieved from the Available Benevolent Fund to the amount of £118 7s. By means of the Permanent Benevolent Fund assistance is afforded periodically to worthy cases. At the present time there are on the fund six widows and three brothers, receiving amounts varying from £1 to £1 10s. a month. The strictest in-

vestigation is made into each application to the board, and it is believed that the funds are wisely administered."

The Grand Inspector of Lodges visited all the lodges except one, and found them working satisfactorily.

Lodges, 41; members, 2,332; increase, 66.

Rt. Hon. Samuel J. Way (Adelaide), G.M.

J. H. Cunningham (Adelaide), G.S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

24th Communication, Sioux Falls, June 14, 1898.

Albert W. Coe, G.M.

The Grand Lecturer held 16 Schools of Instruction. The work of the lodges is pronounced satisfactory, but the use of key is quite prevalent.

The Governor of the State, Bro. Andrew E. Lee, was received with the Grand Honors.

A request for a "travelling lodge," in connection with a State Regiment of Volunteers, was refused.

It was not thought advisable to have a permanent location of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. William Blatt, on the subject of non-affiliation, says:

"This subject, though somewhat subsiding, is still a constant topic of argument and legislation. The latter is as varied as the colors of the rainbow. In one jurisdiction less than 90 miles distant the thumb-screw legislation of '95 was amended the year following, and withal so complicated that an attorney from the Quaker City would have been lost in its mazes. In '97 the whole subject was re-codified and re-enacted in a manner comprehensible to laymen. The strict enforcement of the very plain and simple regulations of our own Grand Lodge, we deem all that is necessary to do, all that we ought to do. While membership in the lodge is a Masonic duty, a duty existent since the organization of lodges, yet we have failed to see any benefits derived by coercion in the line of legislation."

Canada for 1897 receives due attention.

Lodges, 93; members, 4,460; increase, 152.

Louis G. Levoy (Webster), G.M.

George A. Pettigrew (Flandreau), G.S.

TENNESSEE.

85th Communication, Nashville, January 25, 1899.

William H. Bumpas, G.M.

He appealed to the brethren of Tennessee for funds to

build a much-needed addition to their Masonic Home, it being entirely inadequate to accommodate the demands made by the lodges for the maintenance of the widows and orphans of their deceased brethren. The appeal was eminently successful, the new cottage being built and paid for and furnished entirely by the voluntary contributions of their own members. The Home has 108 inmates and the annual cost per capita is \$55.66.

The Grand Lodge decided to return to the system of appointing Grand Representatives.

The following report was adopted:

"Your committee approves the recommendation of the Grand Master for a suspension of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington, on account of its violation of the fundamental doctrines of American Freemasonry, that the Masonic authority in any State must be sole, single, and exclusive, and the necessary corollary that all other bodies and persons claiming to be Masonic are clandestine.

"We can not but regret that our brethren of the far Northwest have felt impelled to become pioneers in prevarication and in Masonic disturbance, as well as in progress and civilization; and that any theoretical and disingenuous abstractions have led them to embark upon perilous seas of impracticable navigation and inevitable Masonic destruction.

"Thirty-four years ago, during the incumbency of our present Senior Past Grand Master Hamilton, this Grand Lodge, in accord with Massachusetts, unanimously adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

"Whereas, Information has been received by this Grand Lodge that associations of negroes, claiming to be Free and Accepted Masons, have been organized in the State of Tennessee, without any legal Masonic authority; therefore,

"Resolved, That all such associations are hereby declared to be spurious, illegal, and clandestine, and all Masons owing allegiance to this Grand Lodge are hereby forbidden to hold Masonic communication with any such association, or with any person in this State or any other claiming to belong thereto, or holding fellowship therewith; and it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that no Masonic authority can or ought to be granted for any such purpose.'

"This resolution stands unrepealed, and expresses the convictions of Freemasons in this State now as fairly as it did in 1865. We believe these associations to be spurious, illegal, and clandestine now, as they were in 1865.

"The Grand Lodge of Washington not only expresses a contrary and repugnant opinion, but even goes to the length of abdicating its sole and exclusive sovereignty in that State, where its own lodges were first established and its supreme authority unquestionable, and acknowledges the equal powers

and rights of another Grand Body and of subordinates thereunder to exercise sovereignty and jurisdiction within the boundaries of that State. By so doing the Grand Lodge of Washington has forfeited all claim to our Masonic recognition and placed itself beyond the pale of fraternal relations. We therefore recommend the adoption by this Grand Lodge of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Tennessee hereby indefinitely suspends all fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons hitherto exercising jurisdiction in the State of Washington."

In his review of Indian Territory, Bro. George H. Morban has the following very sensible remarks on a case where six members of a lodge applied for their demits, as they "believed the Bible taught it was wrong to belong to the Masonic Institution," and in place of getting their demits, they were tried under charges and expelled:

"We think the ruling, as well as the action of the lodge, contrary to both the spirit and letter of Masonic law. When the candidate first crosses the Masonic threshold, is there nothing in the assurance given him that what he is about to take upon himself does not conflict with his religious or political notions, be they what they may, or that conflicts with his duty to his family, himself, his country, or his God? Is there any Medo-Persian law in Masonry that compels him to hold to the views on religion and religious duty he entertains when he becomes a Mason, under pain of expulsion if he changes? We claim to be 'Free and Accepted Masons!' Is there no meaning in the word 'Free?' The very quotation from the Constitution given by Grand Master Scott plainly shows the ruling to be erroneous. To become a Mason a man must be 'free born.' In becoming a member he surrenders none of his freedom, but only takes on himself additional obligations and duties."

Canada for 1898 is fraternally reviewed.

Lodges, 428; members, 17,248; decrease, 340.

Joseph H. Bullock (Paris), G.M.

John B. Garrett (Nashville), G.S.

TEXAS.

63rd Communication, Houston, Dec. 6, 1898.

John L. Terrell, G.M.

The Grand Master issued dispensations for six new lodges, and declined to issue one for an "Army" lodge.

The Special Committee on Negro Masonry in connection with the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington

presented an elaborate report, from which we take the following:

"If the Grand Lodge of Washington had acted hastily in recognizing clandestine Masons, the off-spring of spurious bodies, its conduct, while admitting the palliation of haste and ignorance, would nevertheless be highly reprehensible. But to do this after a thorough consideration, and upon the elaborate report of a committee of twelve months' standing, it can not even plead the poor excuse of ignorance and is without the shadow of justification. It has recklessly reopened a question which has been twice disposed of by the Grand Lodges of America, and to all intents finally settled in 1876. It has deliberately recognized the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and its offshoots as legitimate, and has agreed that a separate Grand Lodge may be established in its own territory, in this last respect subverting the fundamental American and English doctrine of territorial jurisdiction. We think that the Grand Lodge of Washington is inconsistent and disingenuous, in that it recognizes spurious Negro Masonry as genuine, which means, of course, visitation and Masonic intercourse, but in the same breath it tells them that the social relations of the white and black are of such a nature that they must establish their own colored lodges, and it will allow them to have their own colored Grand Lodge, which will be recognized as legitimate Masonry. Our brethren of Washington do not attempt to explain this absurdity. If the Prince Hall Negro Masons are Masons, they are entitled to the same rights and privileges as all other Masons, and it won't do for the Grand Lodge of Washington to attempt to discriminate against them by virtue of race or color. The truth is, they are not and never have been Masons, and the great blunder of the Grand Lodge of Washington is in undertaking to admit them as such. Under the circumstances it would seem idle to attempt to argue with our erring brethren of Washington. The wise course for us to follow is to suspend all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, leaving her to follow her own lonely and erratic orbit until she sees the folly of her ways and recants her errors."

The report then goes into the history of the subject, and concludes with a resolution of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, which was unanimously adopted.

The Masonic Home at Fort Worth is soon to be an accomplished fact.

In his review of Missouri, Bro. Thomas M. Matthews explains the reason why their Deputy Grand Master exercises concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Master.

"Speaking of the decisions made by our Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Vincil says: 'The thought came up what if he and

his chief should differ? Again, why have a double-headed government? Is not a Grand Master supreme during his official term? If so, how can there be two supreme heads to the same body? We answer: There is no danger of a difference, or rather of a clash, my brother, for the same question is never referred to both the Grand Master and the Deputy by the same individual. As you know, Texas is a very large State. Contains as many square miles as almost any other three in the Union, and for convenience of the craft the two officers are invested with very nearly equal powers. When, however, both are present the Grand Master has precedence. At an early day in Texas, when the facilities for communication were not so good as now, it took often as much as three months to get a reply to a letter from the Grand Master. Forty-five years ago, I remember, the Grand Tyler, old Bro. Sanford, told me it took him three months to go from his home to the Grand Lodge at San Antonio and back, upon his mustang pony. To obviate such difficulty we suppose the Deputy was vested with power to decide the questions submitted to him, to issue dispensations, etc. This explanation also answers our brother's third and fourth query. The arrangement was made for convenience sake, and so far as we know has answered its purpose. 'Sabe si,' Bro. Vincil?"

Our Proceedings of 1897 and 1898 receive courteous attention.

Lodges, 626; members, 27,718; decrease, 765.

Sam R. Hamilton (Farmersville), G.M.

John Watson (Houston), G.S.

UTAH.

28th Communication, Salt Lake City, January 17, 1899.

John F. Hardie, G.M.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:

The Masons in the Klondike region are fully cognizant of their duties and perform them:

"On June 7th a letter was received by Bro. F. C. Schramm from Bro. O. G. Randall from Lake Bennett, N. W. T., Canada, on his way to the Klondyke, informing him of the death of Bro. E. A. Ireland, of Wasatch Lodge No. 1, of this city, in which he states that Bro. Ireland died at that place of dropsy of the heart. The remains were embalmed and dressed in the best manner the conditions of such a wild country would permit, and that between 75 and 100 Masons gathered to pay the last sad rites to a departed brother, after which they formed in line and escorted the body to the foot of Lake Linderman, where it was given in charge of the packers, who brought it to Dyea over the Chilkoot Pass trail, and from there shipped to Seattle, where it was received by St. John's Lodge No. 9, of

that city, and shipped by them to Wasatch Lodge, of this city, and interred in Mt. Olivet cemetery."

The Grand Master also mentions a meeting of Uintah Lodge, held on the top of a high mountain overlooking Park City.

There is a general revival of all kinds of business in their rich and fertile State, and they have bright prospects for the future.

On the recognition of Negro Masons by the Grand Lodge of Washington, the following resolutions were passed:

"Resolved first, That we regret exceedingly the action taken in this matter by the Grand Lodge of Washington.

"Resolved second, That we dissent both from its premises and conclusions, and can find no warrant for the departure from long established customs which must result from such action.

"Resolved third, That we fraternally implore our brethren of that State which bears the name of the foremost great Mason of the land, as they love the institution of Freemasonry, and desire to maintain that harmony which should ever prevail among us, to gather to their full strength at their next Annual Communication, and rescind the action which is the cause of so much alarm and unrest among the fraternity East, West, North and South."

Recognition of the Grand Orient of Belgium was deferred. The Grand Lodge of Utah has never yet recognized a Grand Orient.

Bro. Christopher Diehl presented his 23rd report on Correspondence. In his review of California he says:

"If we read correctly between the lines our brethren in California do indulge more or less in the electioneering business, and in order to prevent that a resolution was introduced to amend the Constitution, providing for the election of Grand Officers in the afternoon of the first day's session, instead of the fourth day. If the amendment had been adopted it would have shortened the time of the Masonic politicians, but it failed to carry. The Jurisprudence Committee was favorably impressed with the commendable purpose of the proposed amendment, but was of the opinion that the change would be inadequate to remedy the evil complained of. In Utah we have a constitutional law forbidding electioneering and the member of Grand Lodge or of a lodge who solicits votes, either for himself or for another brother, will be charged with a Masonic offense and punished. Since that law was adopted by our Grand Lodge electioneering is a thing of the past. We advise our Californian brethren to adopt it or a similar one."

Our benevolent work is commended as "a remarkable showing and redounds to our honor."

Lodges, 9; members, 807; increase, 17.

James D. Murdoch (Park City), G.M.

Christopher Diehl (Salt Lake City), G.S.

VERMONT.

105th Communication, Burlington, June 15, 1898..

Daniel N. Nicholson, G.M.

Their new Masonic Temple was dedicated on the first day of the session with imposing ceremonies.

In the report of the Grand Lecturer we find the following:

"It has been my good fortune and pleasure to be present at all District meetings held during the year. In some instances I was obliged to attend alone, as it was impossible for Grand Lodge officers to accompany me. Owing to onerous duties in connection with the building of the Temple, the Grand Master was able to be present at only four meetings. Am glad to report, however, the presence of the Deputy Grand Master on four occasions, the Grand Senior Warden one, and the Grand Junior Warden one.

"Since the introduction of the so-called 'new floor work,' which is now most generously approved and heartily supported, the word 'uniformity' seems to be one of the most prominent in our Masonic vocabulary. We not only see uniformity in floor work, but it is surprisingly manifest in the rendering of the ritual, the uniform accuracy of which to me seems wonderful. Uniformity is also noticeable in the magnitude of the attendance, and last but not least in the courtesies extended, which, together with the fraternal spirit and brotherly feeling shown, all more than suggest a superior development, and a pardonable pride in believing that we are living in one of the brightest Masonic Grand Jurisdictions under the sun."

Most of the lodges have done considerable work and generally the work has been of a higher grade. They have 13 District Deputies, who keep things in order. One of them says:

"The institution is improving in the quality of material being taken in. Fresh young blood, bright, intelligent young men, men who are of the best families and of the highest standing in the community are seeking admission into our Order, to an extent hitherto unknown, and it seems, greater interest is being taken by the old, as well as the young members, than it has ever been my good fortune to notice before, and that brotherly love prevails throughout the district."

And another proves his quality by the following excellent sentiments:

"The more essential principles of Freemasonry pervade the membership, as shown by the solemn and impressive manner of opening and closing the lodge and conferring of the degrees. Quite a notable change in this regard as compared to thirty years ago, for the better, is very patent. There is still a large field and good opportunity in this district for officers, as well as members, to improve, elevate and advance Masonry, especially along the lines of social intercourse; more cordiality, less reserve, a warm and sincere greeting on all occasions toward each other. Some apparently never knew or have forgotten the landmarks of the equality of Masons and that we meet on the level wheresoever assembled as a Masonic body or otherwise. The tenets of Masonry in this jurisdiction are taught and practiced very much to the credit of the brethren, and the results are satisfactory. The aim is to live and act the golden rule; and a determination so to do makes better the man who has promised at our altar to be just and true and do right. Rectitude of life—a good example—moral culture and conduct, are of the greatest importance; acts speak louder than words, and it is by our conduct we are judged.

Men of character only should be our official leaders in the subordinate lodges. Ambition for office should be encouraged, yet the welfare of Masonry generally should be the first consideration.

"Intemperance and immorality of every nature must be eliminated from the lodge room and all mere public gatherings. The standard of our grand Order can be sustained in this day of Christian advancement only by doing all we teach and claim.

"To be a speculative Mason in its broadest and most liberal meaning, calls for honest motives, pure lives and Christian character. Reputed violation of rules of propriety should not be tolerated in our fraternity. Our motto should ever be, work diligently for the advancement of the principles of our noble institution."

Bro. Marsh O. Perkins has a very interesting report on Correspondence, in which the Proceedings of Canada for 1897 receive most favorable mention.

Lodges, 102; members, 9,886; increase, 128.

Daniel N. Nicholson (Burlington), G.M.

Warren G. Reynolds (Burlington), G.S.

VICTORIA.

Quarterly Communication, Melbourne, March 16, 1898.

The Board of Benevolence received 221 applications during the year, of which 64 were refused, and 157 were

relieved to the extent of over \$4,000. Special grants were also given amounting to over \$5,000.

It was noted that the Grand Lodge National of Egypt had warned its lodges against the action of the Rite of Memphis in breaking its concordat and taking over the working of the symbolic degrees.

At the installation of officers on May 18, 1898, the following protest was made:

"The M. W. the Acting Grand Master in the chair, said he deeply regretted being compelled to draw attention to what in his opinion was an irregularity about to be committed by members of Grand Lodge, viz., installing the M. W. Grand Master in his absence from the colony of Victoria. He (the Acting Grand Master) contended that such a proceeding would be contrary to the landmarks and customs of the Order, and also to the Book of Constitutions. As the M. W. the Grand Master-Elect was not present to be installed, he (the Acting Grand Master) would vacate the throne in favor of the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, but before doing so would hand in his written protest against the proposed proceedings. The protest was as follows:

"United Grand Lodge of Victoria,

"May 18th, 1898.

"To the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Baker:

"Dear Sir and R. W. Brother—

"I beg most fraternally to protest against the irregular installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master-Elect, Bro. His Excellency Lord Brassey, K.C.B., etc., during his absence from the colony of Victoria, as the proposed ceremony, without the personal attendance of the M. W. Grand Master-Elect to take the necessary obligation of office, to be regularly invested, and to take possession of the emblem of power and the throne of authority would be an infringement of the 'Ancient Landmarks' and 'Customs' of Free and Accepted Masons, and also in direct opposition to clauses 14 and 18 of the Book of Constitutions, Laws and Regulations of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria.

"I have the honor to remain,

"Dear Sir and R. W. Brother,

"Yours fraternally,

"GEO. COPPIN, P. G. M."

"The R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Baker, said that before receiving the protest he must say that the practice of the Grand Lodge of England had been for many years to proclaim the Grand Master in his absence, and this Grand Lodge could not go far wrong in following such a precedent. Furthermore, the same course which it was now proposed to follow, had been adopted in the case of the late Pro. Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, when absent from the colony on one occasion.

"V. W. Bro. J. Drysdale Brown, Grand Registrar, submitted that the course about to be followed was a correct and proper one, and moved 'that the business of the evening be proceeded with.' M. W. Bro. Coppin then retired from the lodge and R. W. Bro. Baker ascended the throne.

"R. W. Bro. Sir M. H. Davies, P. S. G. W., seconded the motion of the V. W. the Grand Registrar.

"R. W. Bro. Edward Edwards, P. S. G. W., wished to move an amendment which the Acting Grand Master in the chair declined to receive.

"The motion was put to Grand Lodge and carried.

"The Grand Director of Ceremonies then proclaimed M. W. Bro. the Right Honorable Thomas Baron Brassey, K. C. B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria and its dependencies, etc., etc., as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria for the ensuing twelve months."

June 15, 1898. A lodge was reprimanded and fined \$5 for holding its regular meeting on a day other than that named in its by-laws and for conferring a degree in too short a time.

Lodges, 170; members, 7,548; decrease, 129.

Lord Brasey (Melbourne), G.M.

John Braim (Melbourne), G.S.

VIRGINIA.

121st Communication, Richmond, Decc. 6, 1898.

R.T.W. Duke, Jr., G.M.

Four of their Past Grand Masters died during the year. We quote one of the decisions of the Grand Master:

"2. A brother duly qualified was elected Master during his absence. He declined to be installed. I held that under the Ahiman Rezon (Dove's Text Book, Second Edition, page 99), the brother could not decline. He should submit to be installed and then, under Section 178, Methodical Digest, he could resign. I instructed the District Deputy Grand Master to urge this course upon the brother, and if he declined to have charges preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct. This latter course, however, I am happy to say, was not necessary."

Rather hard lines, we would say, that a brother should be charged almost like a criminal because he does not want office. We are glad to notice, however, that the Grand Lodge amended their law so as to allow any officer-elect to decline installation.

The Grand Master very justly condemns the reckless way in which Masonic matters are published in newspapers.

Four new lodges were formed.

President McKinley was made a Mason at Winchester, Virginia, during the Civil War.

The conclusion of the excellent address of Bro. Duke is a gem:

"I have but few suggestions to make. Peace and harmony reign amongst the lodges of this jurisdiction, and the true Masonic spirit seems to me to be ever on the increase.

"I regret to note, however, that the social feature of our institution is not as largely cultivated as it should be in the subordinate lodges, and that there is occasionally a spirit of fault-finding at expenditure for social purposes. My brethren, Masonry is a social institution, organized not purely and simply as an order of builders with charitable purposes. Charity is its corner-stone, its cap-stone, but not charity in the lowest sense of the word, which confines itself merely to giving. The Masonic charity is that love which strives to unite men of different ranks and degrees in life into a band of brothers, which strives to make them know each other better and cultivate the genial, whole-souled appreciation of one another's qualities which will ripen into mutual friendship and esteem. These things cannot be taught in ceremonials even as sublime as ours. Little can be accomplished in formal business meetings, where even warmest friends sometimes clash. There must be friendly association in social converse, and I know of nothing better calculated to bring men together than entertainments in the nature of our old-time suppers, dinners and receptions. The supper need not be that of Lucullus, the dinner cooked by a chef and served by trained attendants, nor the reception an affair of dress suits and studied formality. Nay, better the dinner of herbs where love is than the stalled ox where love is not; and better an humble entertainment where the opportunity is given for friendly chat, a merry song or two, a few pleasant, clean jokes, and an early home-going, than stiff entertainment, no matter how elegantly served, if constraint is there. Cultivate our social features, brethren. Have at least once a quarter a modest entertainment in your lodges. Don't meet and eat and run, but meet and eat and stay and talk and learn to know each other better. You will find it pays not only in the money chest, but in that treasury—which, if empty, God pity us all—the treasury of the human heart.

"I am also constrained to regret that well-meaning, as it may be, but unwise and improper attempt to engraft upon Masonry ideas of form and government and laws borrowed from other fraternal organizations, due no doubt to the active participation of some of our good brethren in the work of these excellent organizations. Brethren, our ways are not as their ways, nor our methods theirs. Our institution is not a benefit society; not an insurance organization; not a temperance society. It is not governed by any written constitution. The will of the majority does not always rule, thank God. We have

no 'rights' for which we can appeal to any other tribunal than our own. Our government is unique, ancient, nay, tyrannical, and yet without a tyrant. Our laws, our forms, our ceremonies, are hoary with antiquity and tried and tested in the crucible of time. Let us resist with strenuous force all efforts to weaken what is our great strength, our intense conservatism. In this restless day of change and strife and new ideas, let Masonry at least walk wisely and honestly. Let us not fail to remember when some tempting draught of newly-made 'progressive' wine is held to our lips, the admonition, 'the old is better.'

"Drummond, the great Masonic scholar, has said: 'Let us direct our efforts to understand and practice Masonry as it is and not waste them in seeking to improve it.'

"I would this sentence could be framed and hung in every lodge room; read aloud at every communication of our lodges, and the changes rung upon it until it became almost a command.

"The study of our great institution, its principles, its symbolism, the laws which govern it, is a work worthy of any man's effort, and the more one studies Masonry the less he sees of any need of improvement.

"Life after all is but a great school whose graduation—Death—ushers us into the University of Eternity, where we are to apply, in everlasting study of God's love and God's creations, the lessons learned here.

"Woe to the idler, the fool, the sluggard in this earthly academy.

"And amongst those things deserving of serious, earnest study I know of none to which some portion of time can better be given than to our Ancient Institution.

"To the antiquarian her legends, her dust-dimmed records, her very history will prove a mine of pleasant research.

"To the poet her majestic ritual—lofty thoughts set to musical, well-chosen words—will charm with its spell as doth a mystic chant.

"To the philosopher great ideas will spread before the vision of his thought as he studies the hidden meaning of many a mystery too few care to interpret.

"To the philanthropist our broad charity, working in secret, yet doing its work well, will give new ideas of how to better the human race.

"To the lover of the drama, our great drama, acted in the simplest style, will appeal, as do all tragedies, to the deepest sympathies of the human heart, whilst its lessons of simple faith, of sturdy honesty, and unflinching courage will stir every fibre of the man.

"For the dreamer of dreams, we have visions; for the man of action, we have opportunities; for the wretched, comfort; for the doubter, faith, and above all, to be searched for with all the zeal man can give to effort, we have hope of better things not only in the resurrection of the body but in the new

birth, the assolliment, the salvation, purification, elevation of the human soul.

"But beware, O my brethren, of the mere study of 'words.' Here, as elsewhere, 'the letter killeth.' Study principles, study meaning, study action, and act as you study. Show forth the result of your endeavor not only with your lips, but in your lives.

"Live Masonry. 'Permitte divis caetera.'"

The Masonic Temple Association was assisted by the following:

"1. Resolved That the Grand Lodge of Virginia doth direct the Finance Committee to pay three thousand dollars to the Masonic Temple Association to aid it in paying the interest due by said Association on its bonded debt and to pay pressing bills.

"2. Resolved, That 'until the next Annual Communication the Finance Committee is authorized to pay a rental to the said Association of five hundred dollars and to forbear to collect the interest that may accrue on the loans of the Grand Lodge to said Association.

"3. Resolved, That for the loans hereby authorized the Masonic Temple Association shall execute to the Treasurer of this Grand Lodge, including the interest as it may accrue, its note or notes, payable on demand.

"4. Resolved, That a committee of three Master Masons be appointed by the Grand Master, charged to consider and further report at the next Annual Communication fully upon all matters connected with the Masonic Temple Association."

The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Virginia hereby reaffirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Territorial Jurisdiction—that is to say, a Grand Lodge first organized in a State or Territory has the supreme control over symbolic Masonry, and is the sole judge of what are, or are not, legitimate Masonic organizations within its territorial limits.

"Resolved, That this doctrine has been acquiesced in by every American Grand Lodge, and the experience of a century having proven that it is wise and wholesome doctrine, by which the Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony, the Grand Lodge of Virginia views with regret and alarm the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions of our country.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Virginia fraternally but most earnestly trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washington will at its next Annual Communication reconsider said action, and thereby promote that peace and harmony which has ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges."

Bro. J. W. Eggleston presented a capital report on

Correspondence, in which our Proceedings of 1897 find a good place.

Lodges, 261; members, 12,904; increase, 101.

R. T. W. Duke, Jr. (Charlottesville), G.M.

George W. Carrington (Richmond), G.S.

WASHINGTON.

41st Communication, Seattle, June 14, 1898.

Archibald W. Frater, G.M.

They have lost by death three of their Past Grand Masters and their venerable Grand Treasurer. Bro. Benjamin Harned had been Grand Treasurer for the past 31 years.

In his rulings on the liquor question, the Grand Master makes some very delicate distinctions. He decided that the manager of a hotel where liquor is sold was eligible for the degrees, while the foreman and engineer of a brewery was not; and again that the petition of a saloon-keeper who was already a Mason, could be received for affiliation. The moral would seem to be that a manager may be a foreman, but a foreman cannot be a manager.

An imposter named George Fleming was convicted of fraud through the efforts of the Grand Master, and is now in the Penitentiary.

On the Condition of the Craft, the Grand Master says:

"In the lodges of our jurisdiction there is general harmony.

"I regret, however, that I am compelled to report an appreciable falling-off in membership as well as in the amount of annual dues. This furnishes a subject worthy of serious consideration:

"Is it because of closer scrutiny into the character of our material, or a continuation of close times?

"Or is it not on account of our law which provides for dropping of delinquents from the rolls? I want to submit to you, brethren, the question, 'Is this a good law?' I am of the opinion that it is not a good law and ought to be modified or repealed. I believe in the exercise of charity; true Masonic charity, which is long suffering and kind; and I would at least recommend to the lodges, before they allow brethren to be thus dropped from the rolls, to consider if it is not better to remit dues where, by reason of hard times, they have accumulated for several years, than to lose good members; more particularly when dues for the current year can be collected, which I believe could be done in most cases.

"I trust the reports for another year may show an increase and healthy growth."

A lodge by-law compelling a lodge to furnish funeral expenses for a deceased brother was decided to be illegal. A lodge should be only bound to pay these expenses in cases of necessity.

The Committee on Negro Masonry appointed last year presented an elaborate report in favor of the legitimacy of the Negro Lodges. It is, however, only fair to state that their alleged facts are denied and their conclusions termed unsound by other Grand Lodges, who have declared non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington in consequence of this action. The resolutions appended to the report were passed by an almost unanimous vote, and are as follows :

" Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, Masonry is universal; and, without doubt, neither race nor color are among the tests proper to be applied to determine the fitness of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry.

" Resolved, That in view of recognized laws of the Masonic Institution, and of facts of history apparently well authenticated and worthy of full credence, this Grand Lodge does not see its way clear to deny or question the right of its constituent lodges, or of the members thereof, to recognize as brother Masons, negroes who have been initiated in lodges which can trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge, No. 459, organized under the warrant of our R. W. Brother Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Acting Grand Master, under the authority of H. R. H. Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, etc., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of F. and A. Masons in England, bearing date September 29, A. L. 5784, or to our R. W. Brother Prince Hall, Master of said lodge; and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, for the purpose of tracing such origin, the African Grand Lodge, of Boston, organized in 1808—subsequently known as the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the first African Grand Lodge of North America in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized in 1815, and the Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania may justly be regarded as legitimate Masonic Grand Lodges.

" Resolved, That while this Grand Lodge recognizes no difference between brethren based upon race or color, yet it is not unmindful of the fact that the white and colored races in the United States have in many ways shown a preference to remain in purely social matters, separate and apart. In view of this inclination of the two races—Masonry being pre-eminently a social institution—this Grand Lodge deems it to be the best interest of Masonry to declare that if regular Masons of African descent desire to establish, within the State of Washington, lodges confined wholly or chiefly to brethren of their race, and shall establish such lodges strictly in accordance with the landmarks of Masonry, and in accordance with Ma-

sonic law as heretofore interpreted by Masonic tribunals of their own race, and if such lodges shall in due time see fit in like manner to erect a Grand Lodge for the better administration of their affairs, this Grand Lodge having more regard for the good of Masonry than for any mere technicality, will not regard the establishment of such lodges or Grand Lodge as an invasion of its jurisdiction, but as evincing a disposition to conform to its own ideas as to the best interests of the Craft under peculiar circumstances; and will ever extend to our colored brethren its sincere sympathy in every effort to promote the welfare of the Craft or inculcate the pure principles of our art.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge receipt of the communication from Gideon S. Bailey and Con A. Rideout, and forward to them a copy of the printed Proceedings of this Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, as a response to said communication."

The following letter from a brother in Alaska was read by the Grand Secretary. It furnishes a striking proof of the universality of Masonry and of the tenacity with which its good principles are held by our brethren of many lands:

"Lake Bennett, May 24, 1894.

".....I spoke to you of attending the deathbed of E. A. Ireland, of Utah. Well, Ireland was a Mason, and a call was made for Masons to attend the body as far as Lake Linderman. About 175 Masons responded; these decided, after the funeral, to call an 'acquaintance meeting,' at which a large number of Masons attended. This meeting was addressed by Masons, who belonged in the following countries: The United States, England, France, Germany, Canada, Austria, Sweden, Norway, New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Philippines, Canaries, Madagascar, Arabia, Morocco, Egypt, Mexico, South America, Palestine, etc.; in fact, there were Masons from all over the world. Their talk was very interesting to me, and never before did I realize so forcibly the universality of Masonry. As several Masons are buried here, it was decided that each man should bring a post or a board to the burial ground on Monday following, at seven o'clock p.m., when a fence would be erected around the graves. Everyone responded handsomely, and at 11:30 p.m. we had finished the fence and had our photographs taken; and, by the way, there are hundreds of cameras, and Alaskan views will be very plentiful in Seattle by and by."

We regret being compelled to devote no more space to this jurisdiction. The report on Correspondence by Bro. Thomas M. Reed contains many paragraphs we would like to quote. It is one of the best of the year.

Canada for 1897 has a good notice.

Lodges, 99; members, 4,663; decrease, 16.

William H. Upton (Walla Walla), G.M.

Thomas M. Reed (Olympia), G.S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

34th Communication, Wheeling, Nov. 15, 1898.

S. N. Myers, G.M.

Masonry has been making a steady and healthy progress in this State, and four new lodges were formed. The District Deputies submitted full reports, showing a creditable performance of their important duties.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held on the evening of the first day of the session, in memory of their deceased Past Grand Masters, Odell S. Long and Gustav Brown, and Past Grand Chaplain C. J. Trippett.

The following report was adopted:

"The recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master upon the subject of temperance, which was referred to a special committee, if adopted, would be far-reaching, and may be ex post facto in its operation. It is impossible, in the short time at the command of your committee, to give the subject presented mature thought and consideration.

"Your committee are, however, of opinion that it is hard for men who live solely by the sale of strong drink to those who are debauched and destroyed by its use, to truly practice the tenets and principles of our noble profession, and we commend to the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction the exercise of great care and caution in the admission of such persons into Masonic fellowship."

A special committee was appointed to see about the establishment of a Masonic Home, and the sum of \$2,000 was voted as a nucleus of a fund for that purpose.

The Grand Secretary submitted his 13th report on Correspondence. His resume of some of the subjects discussed is excellent:

"There are, with one exception, no new live questions before the fraternity this year. The 'Wisconsin Plan of Relief' for needy and deserving brethren, has fallen by the wayside. The majority of the Grand Lodges, in passing upon the proposition, have concluded that each individual lodge should look after its own needy members; and so that matter, in a measure, rests.

"The Maine proposition of restricting the jurisdiction of a lodge to five years, over rejected candidates, has made some headway among the Grand Lodges. It has always seemed wrong to my mind that when a candidate for the mysteries of

Freemasonry has been rejected by a lodge, that that lodge shall have absolute control of the rejected party forever. There ought to be a time limit, and the Grand Lodge of Maine fixes it at five years, which is a reasonable period. However, many of our Grand Bodies have held to the theory of 'perpetual jurisdiction' so long that they seemingly cannot let go. But I am free to say, it is my judgment, that the Maine proposition will ultimately triumph.

"Non-affiliation is still pretty generally discussed, but not so vigorously as a few years ago. All sorts of methods have been tried by the different Grand Lodges to remedy the existing conditions, and none of them have proved successful. On the whole the discussion is gradually petering out. The Masonic world has about come to the conclusion that if a brother is little and narrow enough to procure a dimit to avoid paying dues to his lodge, that he ought to be allowed to go ahead and do it. One thing is settled, and that is, he is regarded as a Masonic nondescript and merits no consideration at the hands of affiliated members.

"The cipher business has about wiggled itself to death. The Grand Lodges which tolerated it have reaped the whirlwind, and it will very soon be heard of no more forever.

"Mexican Masonry is still a very live factor in the fraternity. It is, however, getting in better shape. The Gran Dieta Symbolica, which knocked at our doors for recognition, has purged itself, we are told, of its most objectionable drawbacks, to wit: making Masons out of women and ignoring 'the Great Light in Masonry;' and if it makes good its pledges, it bids fair to gain recognition by our United States Grand Lodges. It is true that its Grand Orient origin is objectionable, but we have too many precedents in the United States of recognition of such composite bodies, to allow us to turn it down for that reason. It is claimed, however, that a number of Masonic bodies that formerly paid allegiance to it, have withdrawn, and that it is thereby on the decline. Whether this is true or false remains to be seen; as also the fulfillment of its pledges to restore the Holy Bible to its altars, and call in its charters for female lodges. My own judgment is that we should move cautiously in the way of recognition, until we have more satisfactory developments along all these lines."

Lodges, 111; members, 6,251; increase, 263.

Joseph Hall (Wheeling), G.M.

George W. Atkinson (Wheeling), G.S.

WISCONSIN.

54th Communication, Milwaukee, June 14, 1898.

Nathan C. Griffin, G.M.

He reports one new lodge. Harmony prevails and the Craft is in good condition.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

We quote from the report of the Grand Lecturer, Bro. M. L. Youngs :

" During the year the Grand Lecturer has visited the different lodges and held the schools of instruction provided at the last session. In doing so, I have, with but two or three exceptions, followed the program as first arranged. In most the attendance has been fully up to that of former years. The representation of lodges in the vicinity of those where schools have been held has been better than usual. I have also by request, and at their own expense visited a number of lodges not on the list of those designated for the current year. These, added to the number provided by the Grand Lodge, will make over eighty that have availed themselves of instruction. Not only the officers of lodges, but many of their members have been in attendance upon these schools; and none have been more interested or manifested a greater anxiety to rehearse and correct themselves in the lectures adopted by the Grand Lodge and which have been made the standard for its work, than have been those who in each lodge are regarded as authority in the work, and upon whom has devolved the duty of instructing candidates for advancement. They realize the fact that by partial memorizing of the lectures and the indifferent and incorrect manner in which they are too often taught to candidates, they are liable to become so corrupted that in their application to the work not only is superfluous, irrelevant language introduced, thus marring its beauty, but too often materially changing the sentiment intended to be conveyed.

All, too, are more and more appreciating the fact that when in conferring the degrees the ritual is strictly followed, the interest is better maintained than by the addition of anything foreign; that the legitimate work of Masonry possesses for the genuine Mason an attractiveness of which he never tires. At each rendering he finds something new and instructive. Hence the anxiety to be corrected and desire to adhere strictly thereto. Of the prosperity of the different lodges and the amount of work which has been done, I can best refer you to their several reports. While many have added largely to their membership, others have done but little; yet on the whole Masonry in this jurisdiction is having a healthy growth. Our lodges are generally prosperous and our reputation for uniformity in the work is being well maintained."

Bro. Aldro Jenks, P.G.M., presented a very good report on Correspondence. In his review of Montana, he says:

" We are satisfied that there is a great deal in Masonry that has never been committed to writing, and, while it has become the proper thing for modern historians to require contemporaneous documentary evidence for everything which they admit to be authentic, we are of the opinion that they are demanding something of Masonry which the earliest teachings of the Craft strictly forbade. Masons at an early day were much more re-

luctant than they are nowadays to reduce their teachings, practices and beliefs to writing; regarding matters even the most trivial as esoteric. Under such circumstances it is not remarkable that modern historians should find difficulty in securing authentic documentary evidence to support its traditions. The same form of sceptical criticism would entirely destroy the Bible and prove it to be the work of uninspired man at a comparatively recent date. If this is the case regarding such a book as the Bible, how much more difficult would it be to trace the history, and ascertain the belief of a society, every member of which felt impelled by solemn obligations to refrain from putting in print or writing the least word that would in any manner reveal the belief, teachings, legends or traditions of the order. We think that sufficient weight has not been given to these considerations by modern historians."

Lodges, 237; members, 17,226; increase, 280.

James G. Monahan (Darlington), G.M.

John W. Laflin (Milwaukee), G.S.

WYOMING.

24th Communication, Casper, September 14, 1898.

E. P. Rohrbaugh, G.M.

A new lodge was opened at Wheatland. The Grand Master made several official visitations and reports harmony prevailing. He is strongly in favor of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby discountenances and discourages the election of any brother as Worshipful Master until he is able to confer the three degrees of Freemasonry."

Bro. W. L. Kuykendall would like "to use a stuffed club" on the man who named their State. He thinks that their being the last on the alphabetical list frequently curtails their reviews, as the reporters are generally tired out by the time their Proceedings are reached. It must be confessed that there is some foundation for this opinion, and we must try and do better. Wyoming and its excellent Grand Secretary deserve more attention than some much larger jurisdictions. In his review of Colorado, Bro. Kuykendall has the following:

"We welcome another excellent report from the pen of Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf, in which is included a valuable digest of many important decisions rendered in a large number of grand jurisdictions. Wyoming received a handsome notice. He still has hopes that we will get over on his side of the

fence on the question of antiquity, and in commenting on our reply to Bro. Wait in the report of 1896 calls for the production of 'an atom of reliable evidence' that Speculative Masonry was born about 1717. We have at no time volunteered to produce any evidence whatever to that effect; on the contrary have waited with patience for our antiquity brethren to produce any reliable evidence that it really did exist for any great length of time prior to that date. The burden of proof is on those claiming such antiquity. We have, however, expressed our opinion on the subject, and as he challenges all doubters we will present him with a few circumstances in support of our contention. We are justified in believing that he will not deny that the old charges presented by Anderson, in his constitutions, originally had reference solely to operative Masons. That reference seems plain, as the language cannot reasonably be construed any other way. It is therefore evident that Anderson failed to find anything else verging on antiquity and worked them in as the foundation for the government of Speculative Masonry. We have heard no denial of the existence of operative Freemason's guilds or lodges long prior to 1717. It is reasonable to suppose they had a code of laws similar to, if not identical with, said charges. They no doubt had means of recognition unintelligible to others not members. Our brother will surely not claim that anything of that character was part and parcel of our Speculative Masonry. What was the situation in 1717, when the Grand Lodge of England was organized, which, in our opinion, is erroneously termed the revival of Speculative Masonry. To read after Anderson regarding old lodges, old Grand Lodges and Grand Masters, one would justly infer that the country had surely been filled with all three, and yet it appears that only four lodges organized the Grand Lodge. What became of the host of others and their records? Oblivion seems to have swallowed them bodily. We are aware it is claimed that a few other lodges existed at the time of such organization. We also know that in 1737, twenty years thereafter, the number of lodges was exceedingly small. If Anderson had access to old records and Mss, as he claims, it is singular he did not leave some record supported by unimpeachable evidence as to the location of said lodges, when and where at least one meeting of the old Grand Lodge was held and the name of at least one of the long line of Grand Masters who ruled that ancient Grand Lodge should have appeared somewhere in those old records. If such authenticated records ever existed except in imagination it is very singular that he, when entering upon such a great and important undertaking of assisting in the revival of our Speculative Masonry, did not leave some tangible sign of the former existence of lodges, a Grand Lodge and former Grand Masters. It is also peculiar that no records of any lodge or Grand Lodge of Speculative Masonry, as we understand the latter, or writings of any of Anderson's ancient Grand Masters were not secured and preserved by him with great care. He says there

were secretaries in those days. They must have belonged to the honorary class. We know of one society or organization in this country, not fifty years old, that was started by one man and now numbers its lodges by the thousand and has enrolled in its membership three or four hundred thousand members. We also know another that was transplanted from England to this country about three-quarters of a century ago by one man which numbers its lodges by the thousand and has a membership of one million people. There are likewise others started in the same manner that claim a descent from the earliest dawn of the human race. No one believes such trash. Connecting these cases with Anderson's silence on material points the inference in our opinion is that a short time prior to 1717 a few choice spirits conversant with, if not members of, guilds or lodges of Operative Masons, saw an opportunity of founding a fraternity or institution based thereon and formed a lodge, thus laying the crude foundation for our existing Speculative Masonry. Such would seem to be the case or that certain laws of Operative Masonry were selected by some one or more persons as a basis for our institution and all the rest manufactured to suit. As before stated the burden of proof of antiquity claimed by a few of our brethren is upon them and not upon those holding to the contrary to prove a negative. So far the affirmative evidence has not been produced. Our brother cites the lodge at Warrington and the lodge under the wing of the Mason's company in London. If their evidence was clear that they were purely lodges of Speculative Masonry such as have existed since 1717, which we do not believe, can anyone be assured that the evidence, like the ballot boxes at election in our brother's state, has not been tampered with. There was a time when the story about William Tell was implicitly believed. Circumstances declare it to be a myth without any foundation. In reading the lives of great men of our country who have flourished in one day, also histories of our country, narrating events occurring during the same time, we have found many things in both which, within our personal knowledge, had no foundation in fact, also many things have been misrepresented and some entirely perverted. All this shows how uncertain and unreliable the evidence is that our brother has to seek to make his contentions good, and this is a reminder that we have never heard him express an opinion or positive knowledge as to the date when our Speculative Masonry sprang into existence, also as to the dates when the first lodge and Grand Lodge were organized, and who was our first Most Worshipful Grand Master. We hope he does not belong to the class who claim that Adam was our first Grand Master and Solomon the second, for there is an awful break between them which may be accounted for, however, by claiming that there was another revival in Solomon's time which made him number two; or to the class that claims our organization was in existence when the stars first sang together, for science knocks the latter into oblivion and our

brother will be kept busy to establish the Solomon revival and that of 1717. No, my brother, we are all agreed that our Grand Institution is the oldest charitable organization in existence. Extreme antiquity does not add one mite to its character, principles or usefulness; on the contrary, a claim to that effect without any tangible evidence to warrant it places us in a ridiculous position with seekers after truth. It is whether we, as an organization, are living up to the tenets of our profession and doing our share in ameliorating the condition of the human race, and not our antiquity, that counts with our fellow-men."

Lodges, 16; members, 985; decrease, 26.

J. M. Rumsey, Jr. (Rawlins), G.M.

William L. Kuykendall (Saratoga), G.S.

LIST OF PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1898	New Hampshire	1898
Arizona	1898	New Jersey	1899
Arkansas	1898	New Mexico	1898
British Columbia....	1898	New South Wales ..	1898
California	1898	New York	1898
Colorado	1898	New Zealand	1898
Connecticut	1899	North Carolina	1899
Delaware	1898	North Dakota	1898
District of Columbia..	1898	Nova Scotia	1898
England.....	—	Ohio	1898
Florida	1899	Oklahoma	1898
Georgia	1898	Oregon	1898
Idaho....	1898	Pennsylvania	1898
Illinois	1898	Prince Edward Isl'd.	1898
Indiana	1898	Quebec	1899
Indian Territory	1898	Rhode Island	1898
Iowa	1898	Scotland	1899
Kansas	1899	South Australia	1897
Kentucky	1898	South Carolina	1898
Louisiana	1899	South Dakota	1898
Maine	1898	Tasmania	1898
Manitoba	1898	Tennessee	1899
Maryland	1898	Texas	1898
Massachusetts	1898	Utah	1899
Michigan	1899	Vermont	1898
Minnesota	1899	Victoria	1898
Mississippi	1898	Virginia	1898
Missouri	1898	Washington	1898
Montana	1898	Wisconsin	1898
Nebraska	1898	West Virginia	1898
Nevada	1898	Wyoming	1898
New Brunswick	1898		

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON, Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, June 14th, 1899.



1899

THE GRAND LODGE OF Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

ELECTED OFFICERS, A. L. 5899-5900.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone,	Toronto,	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford,	London,	Deputy Grand Master.
" " H. P. Macdonell,	Ottawa,	Grand Senior Warden.
" " J. R. Stuart,	Stratford,	" Junior "
" " Rev. Robt. Campbell, D.D.	Renfrew,	" Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray,	Hamilton,	" Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. Thomas M. Davis,	Hamilton,	" Registrar.
" " J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	" Secretary.

And by open vote of Grand Lodge,

W. Bro. John Robertson, London, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop,	Wardsville,	District No. 1.
" " R. Coghlan,	Wyoming,	" 2.
" " George F. Morris,	London,	" 3.
" " John H. Reid,	Seaforth,	" 4.
" " Geo. Landerkin, M. D.,	Hanover,	" 5.
" " A. W. Crysler,	Delhi,	" 6.
" " Edward Burns	Elora,	" 7.
" " F. A. Latchaw,	Dundas,	" 8.
" " Fred. D. Kent, M. D.,	Thornbury,	" 9.
" " J. H. Crow,	Welland,	" 10.
" " W. D. McPherson,	Toronto W.,	" 11.
" " F. G. Inwood,	Toronto, E.,	" 11a.
" " John M. Shaw, M. D.,	Keene,	" 12.
" " W. Latimer,	Belleville,	" 13.
" " A. Shaw,	Kingston,	" 14.
" " Robt. W. Watchorn,	Merrickville,	" 15.
" " W. A. Mackay,	Renfrew,	" 16.
" " W. S. Beaver,	Port Arthur,	" 17.
" " J. N. Shearer,	Huntsville,	" 18.

The Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, will be held in the City of London, on the third Wednesday, being the 18th day of July, A. D. 1900, A. L. 5900.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
AT
ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

HELD AT
*Tilsonburg, 18th August, A. L. 5899; Mer-
ritton, 9th Sept., A. L. 5899; Bradford,
27th October, A. L. 5899; Toronto,
25th April, A. L. 5900; Welland,
15th June, A. L. 5900, and
Owen Sound, 2nd July, A. L. 5900.*

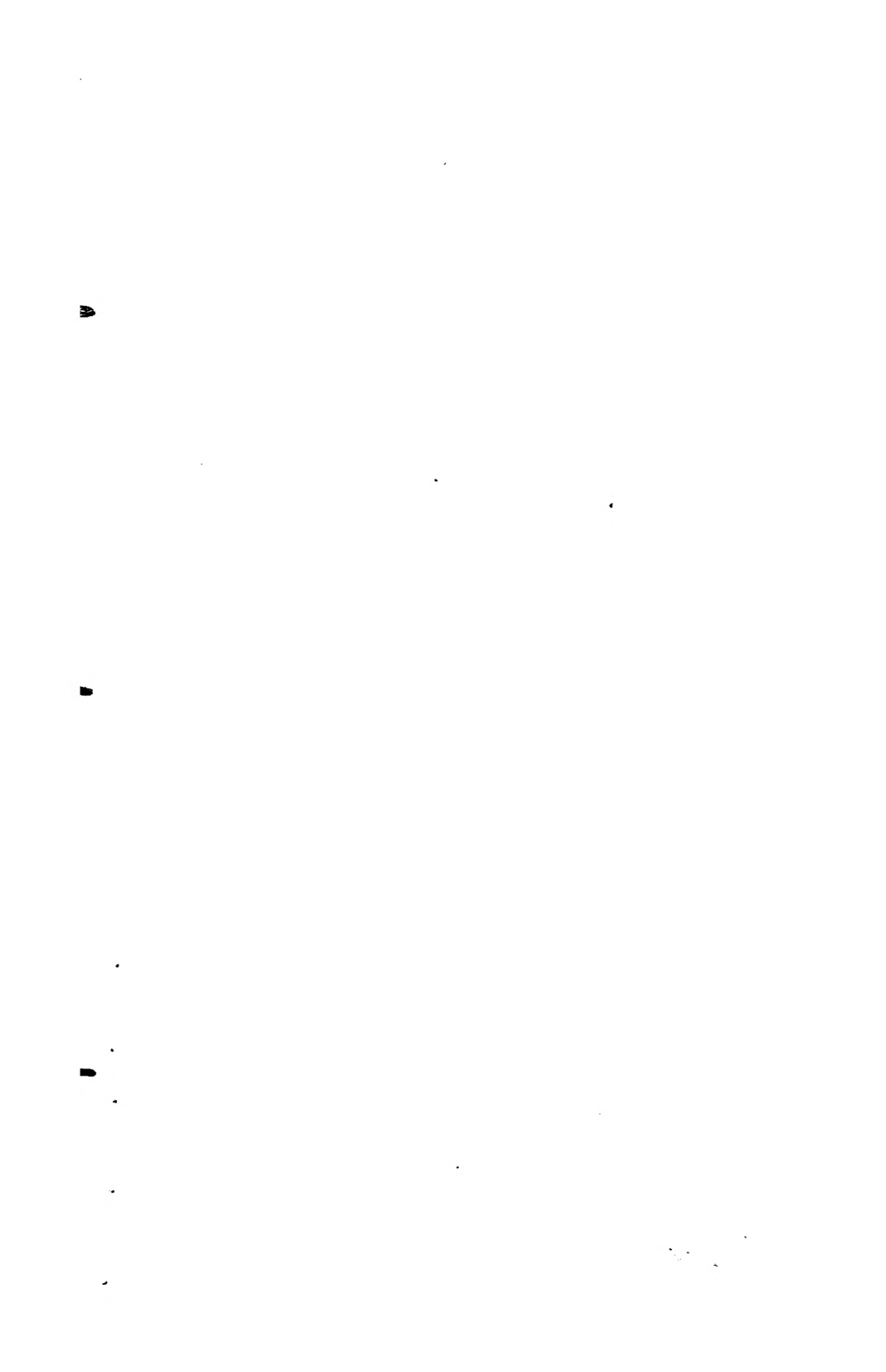
ALSO AT THE
FORTY - FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
HELD IN THE CITY OF LONDON,
ON THE
18th and 19th July, A. D. 1900, A. L. 5900.



The Property of and Ordered to be Read in all Lodges and Preserved.

HAMILTON:
SPECTATOR PRINTING CO., LIMITED.
1900.







M. W. BRO. JAMES KIRKPATRICK KERR,
GRAND MASTER 1875-1876.

This Corner Stone

OF THE

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

was laid by M. W. Elias Talbot Malone, assisted by the Grand officers, and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and inhabitants of the County.

TRUSTEES—J. S. Hara, R. Hunter, Joseph Turner.

MANAGERS—Jas. Marshall, E. Brown, R. Hunter, Alex. Aitken,
J. Q. McComb, Wm. McCormack, Wm. Walker,
Jas. S. Hara, Wm. Jamieson.

TREASURER—Wm. Jamieson.

PASTOR—Rev. J. L. Robertson, M. A., B. D.

BUILDING COMMITTEE :

A. R. Thompson	Chairman.
Wm. Jamieson	Financial Secretary.
Jas. Marshall,	E. Brown,
R. Hunter,	Alex. Aitken,
J. Q. McComb,	Wm. McCormack,
Wm. Walker,	D. Walker,
J. S. Hara,	Jos. Turner,
S. Moffat,	John McCraw,
Wm. Andrews.	

ELDERS—Samuel Moffat, David Gibson, J. S. Hara, Wm. Jamieson.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master by the Building Committee.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren re-



M. W. BRO. WILLIAM HENRY WELLER,
GRAND MASTER 1877-1878.



M. W. BRO. JAMES A. HENDERSON, Q. C.,
GRAND MASTER 1879-1880.

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M. W. BRO. LT.-COL. JAMES MOFFAT,
GRAND MASTER 1881.

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M. W. BRO. DANIEL SPRY,
GRAND MASTER 1882-1883.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
OF
Ancient In. and Accepted
OF CANADA PROVINCE OF

ESPECIALLY

*Windsorburg, 1st
Victoria, 9th Sep.
27th October
25th April,
15th June
Queen's Sound,*

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL **SESSION**

HELD IN THE CITY OF
ON THE
A. D.



and Order of

SEE TAILOR

was laid by the R. W. Bro. James McLauchlan, P. G. S.W., acting as G. M. under dispensation, assisted by the Grand Officers, and in the presence of a large concourse of brethren and inhabitants of the town and surrounding County.

The Building Committee is composed of the Rev. G. M. Franklin, L. Th., (Chairman), Messrs. George Cole, Vesey H. Hill, (Treasurer), Charles D. Liddell, William Pedwell, R. Judson Doyle and Robert Julyan.

The Inspector of the work is Mr. John Brown. The Contractors for the stone work are Messrs. French and Stuart of Owen Sound.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the acting Grand Master by the Rev. G. M. Franklin, incumbent of St. Thomas' Church, Chairman of the Building Committee, on behalf of the congregation.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the Craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

After the ceremony addresses were delivered by the acting Grand Master and others.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the lodge room, and Grand Lodge was closed in form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At the Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, held in the City of London, commencing on Wednesday, the 18th day of July, A. D. 1900, A. L. 5900.

PRESENT:

THE GRAND MASTER,

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone on the Throne.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.

R. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell	Grand Senior Warden.
“ Fred. D. Kent, M. D.....	as Grand Junior Warden.
“ Rev. G. Chrystal	as Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis.....	Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason ...	Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, M. P.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
“ E. T. Essery	Grand Junior Deacon.
“ Alex. Gibson	as Grand Dir. of Cer.
R. W. Bro. Jas. Nixon	as Grand Organist.
V. W. Bro. Jas. P. Boles.....	Grand Pursuivant.
“ R. J. Munro	} Grand Stewards.
“ N. Shafley	
“ F. Holwell.....	
“ John Anderson.....	
“ Thos. Shaw	
“ E. M. Carlton	
“ Jas. Old	} Grand Standard Bearer.
“ John Parsell.....	
“ W. C Fitzgerald	Grand Standard Bearer.
W. Bro. John Robertson	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. J. T. McKillop	Erie	District No. 1
“ R. Coghlan.....	St. Clair	“ 2
“ Geo. F. Morris	London	“ 3
“ John H. Reid	South Huron	“ 4
“ Geo. Landerkin, M. D....	North Huron	“ 5

R. W. Bro. A. W. Cryslor.....	Wilson	District No. 6	
" Edward Burns	Wellington	"	7
" F. A. Latshaw.....	Hamilton	"	8
" Fred. D. Kent, M. D.	Georgian	"	9
" J. H. Crow.....	Niagara	"	10
" W. D. McPherson.....	Toronto West	"	11
" F. G. Inwood.....	Toronto East	"	11a
" John W. Shaw, M. D.	Ontario	"	12
" W. Latimer	Prince Edward	"	13
" A. Shaw	Frontenac	"	14
" Robt. W. Watchorn.....	St. Lawrence	"	15
" W. A. Mackay	Ottawa	"	16
" W. S. Beaver	Algoma	"	17
" J. N. Shearer	Nipissing	"	18

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

FROM GRAND LODGE OF

R. W. Bro. Robt. McKnight	Prince Edward Island.
" D. D. Campbell.....	New South Wales.
" L. Secord, M. D.....	New Zealand.
" J. H. Burritt	South Australia.
M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson.....	Victoria.
R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed	Alabama.
" J. C. Hegler	Arkansas.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson	Connecticut.
" Henry Robertson, Q. C.	District of Columbia.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Florida.
M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C.....	Georgia.
V. W. Bro. J. H. Flock, Q. C.....	Idaho
R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow	Illinois.
M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully	Ireland.
R. W. Bro. W. G. Reid	Kansas.
" D. F. MacWatt	Louisiana.
" C. W. Postlethwaite.....	Maine.
" R. B. Hungerford	Michigan.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson	Minnesota.
M. W. Bro. Hon. J. M. Gibson.	Montana.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf	Nebraska.
" Wm. Rea	New Mexico.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray ...	New York.
R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar.....	North Dakota.
" T. C. MacNabb.....	South Carolina.
M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Q. C.....	South Dakota.
R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson.....	Tennessee.
" DeWitt H. Martyn, M. D.	Vermont.
" T. H. Brunton.....	Virginia.
" J. E. Harding, Q. C.	West Virginia.
M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson	Brazil.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—A. A. Stevenson, Hugh Murray, Hy. Robertson, W. R. White, J. M. Gibson, Wm. Gibson, Kivas Tully.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—Gavin Stewart Geo. C. Holden, A. T. Freed, C. H. Connor, James Glanville, A. R. Hargraft, W. Roaf, G. J. Bennett, W. J. Robertson, R. L. Gunn, S. Amsden, Jos. Beck, Wm. Birrell, Thos. McCallum, W. G. Reid, A. Allworth, T. H. Brunton, A. B. Munson, Samuel Dubber, B. Paine, G. S. May, E. D. Parlow, A. Weir, J. B. Nixon, J. C. Hegler, J. E. Harding, Wm. McDonald, H. G. Lindsay, Peter H. Cox, R. McKnight, DeWitt H. Martyn, D. F. McWatt, R. E. Wood, A. McCurdy, J. F. Graham, G. W. Holwell, J. G. Liddell, T. F. Chamberlain, W. J. Mooney, R. W. Longmore, J. Cascaden, Wm. Rea, Thos. Allshire, John Boyd, John Sinclair, P. W. D. Brodrick, E. A. Cooper, J. McLaren, D. D. Campbell, J. C. Morgan, W. Dawson, J. Newell, A. G. Campbell, T. C. McNab, R. J. Lockhart, R. Hillier, Wm. Jaques, D. Robertson, J. B. Tiernay, H. Hyndman, D. B. Dewar, P. N. Spencer, J. A. Macfadden, W. C. Harris, Wm. Kennedy, Richard Mills, Isaac Huber, A. B. Hurrell, J. Simpson, T. A. Robson, W. R. Hickey, J. H. Burritt.

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS.—C. W. Postlewaite, T. W. Lester, H. F. Sharpe, G. R. Vanzant, J. McLauchlan, L. Secord, A. W. Porte, B. Allan, Allen McLean.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS.—A. B. Greer, J. S. Dewar.

PAST GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Rev. Geo. Chrystal.

PAST GRAND REGISTRARS.—R. J. Craig, Isaac Waterman, Fred. C. Martin, W. McKellar, W. J. Bishop, Geo. C. Patterson.

PAST GRAND SENIOR DEACONS.—T. A. Simpson, W. H. Adams, Thos. Beattie, C. J. Honl.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR DEACONS.—M. D. Dawson, H. J. Charles, C. A. Kingston.

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS.—D. W. B. Spry.

PAST GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—Jos. Hook, W. J. Hambly, H. M. Wright, H. Hyndman.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—J. N. Hall, Alex. Patterson.

PAST GRAND SWORD BEARERS.—P. A. Craig, Geo. Thompson.

PAST GRAND ORGANISTS.—N. T. Lyon, J. Callard, C. A. Sippi.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND ORGANISTS.—G. W. Gott, H. Waterman, Alex. Smith, N. L. Steiner.

PAST GRAND PURSUIVANTS.—John Newton, Alex. Gibson and A. Morton.

PAST GRAND STEWARDS.—A. Ellis, J. S. Scarff, Jas. Old, J. H. Flock, Robt. Lewis, R. R. Fulton, W. E. Sawyer, A. J. Holloway, A. Shaw, Jas. Dundas, C. C. Morris, C. F. Harris, S. Beaumont, Jas. Stewart, Peter Toll, G. Middleditch.

PAST GRAND STANDARD BEARERS.—W. J. McAllister and J. W. Jones.

Before the opening of Grand Lodge, His Worship Mayor Rumball and members of the City Council were announced, introduced and read the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

E. T. Malone, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario :

SIR,—I have the honor, on behalf of the Municipal Corporation, to extend to yourself and other officers and members of this Grand Lodge a very sincere and cordial welcome to the City of London. About one half of the members of our Municipal Council, this year, are members of the Craft, and they of course agree that there's nothing too good for the strangers at present within our gates. I do not wish you, however, to infer that their colleagues less heartily than they wish you a pleasant and profitable sojourn here, for we are all conscious that in the selection of London as the place for holding your Annual Communication you have conferred a signal honor upon the commercial metropolis of Western Ontario. The Corporation which I have the honor to represent has not been unmindful of the serious inconvenience under which our local Masonic lodges at present labor, occasioned by the destruction so recently of all their lodge rooms and appliances, and to aid them in their efforts we have placed at their disposal the free use of the Public Hall and committee rooms at the City Buildings for the purposes of Grand Lodge, and they are still available should occasion require.

It is our earnest desire, not alone that your meeting here may be surrounded with all that is pleasant and agreeable, but that also it may be memorable for the friendships formed and ambitions realized under the restraining influence of Free Masonry, whose noble precepts and lofty ideals of manhood are discernible even by those who have not bowed the knee at its altars. In this age of ever increasing demands upon the time and the means of the generous in every community, there exists, I believe, no loftier or more genuine charity than that bestowed by the various Masonic organizations; while the princely munificence of a few members of the Craft have won the plaudits of the world. We therefore trust that prosperity may continue within your borders. Now, sir, permit us in conclusion to express the hope that when the affairs of your present communication become mere historical records, there may remain green and fresh in the memory of each member of this Grand Lodge some kindly remembrance of his visit, on this occasion, to the Forest City.

Signed on behalf of the Municipal Council,

F. G. RUMBALL,
Mayor.

The M. W. the Grand Master, having made a suitable response, and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 3 o'clock p.m., and the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T U. upon the proceedings.

A deputation of Masters from the London lodges

was announced, introduced and presented to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME :

To the Most Worshipful Bro. E. T. Malone, Q. C., Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in Ontario :

The Brethren in London cordially welcome you to the Forest City and greet you with hearty wishes for the success of the Forty-fifth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and sincerely congratulate you upon the continued prosperity of the Craft within your jurisdiction.

We deeply regret, Most Worshipful Sir, that our plans for your entertainment during the past year had to be abandoned, owing to the destruction of our Temple by fire. We can assure you that it was with feelings of bitter disappointment that we found ourselves unable to tender you some mark of our respect during your second term of office. We therefore take this opportunity of assuring you that you have the confidence and esteem of every Mason in our city, and of extending to you our hearty congratulations upon the success which has attended the Craft under your able leadership. We know that you have made large sacrifices for Masonry, sparing neither your time nor your means, and that you will carry with you, when your term is ended, the brotherly love and affection of every craftsman in the Province.

The recent fire, to which we have referred, has caused us serious loss and a great inconvenience, and we must ask the indulgence of the members of Grand Lodge, if our arrangements for their reception and entertainment are not as elaborate or even as convenient as we would have wished them to be. We trust that the delegates may find comfortable and ample accommodation, and if this place of meeting is not all that might be desired, we can only regret that the fire which destroyed our lodge rooms also destroyed the Grand Opera House, which could better have accommodated so large a gathering.

Since the last communication of Grand Lodge the Empire has been engaged in one of the most serious wars of the century, now happily nearing a successful issue. Masons are loyal subjects, and many a craftsman from this Province is now serving his Queen and country in South Africa in the Canadian contingents. We are proud to remember also that the two great British leaders in this campaign—Lords Roberts and Kitchener, and many of the other Generals engaged, are active and influential members of the Craft, and that in the midst of their most arduous duties in the field, they have found time to attend Masonic gatherings at Bloemfontein and elsewhere.

We must congratulate the members of Grand Lodge upon the prompt and generous manner in which the Grand Lodge contributed to the relief of the sufferers from the great fire in Ottawa and Hull ; the Masonic virtues of friendship, relief and brotherly love are thus proved to be active principles, and not merely empty forms of words.

We trust that your stay in our city, with its beautiful parks and

many other places of interest, may be enjoyable and pleasant to you, and that you will carry to your homes impressions of your visit which will ever be an agreeable reminder of a few days spent in our midst.

We do not forget that you are assembled for business, rather than for pleasure, and it is our sincere wish that every success may rest upon your present communication, and that your labors may be rewarded by the continued growth and prosperity of Masonry.

May brotherly love prevail in your deliberations, and may all Masonic virtues be reflected in your actions.

Signed on behalf of the brethren of London.

R. A. BAYLEY, W. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 20.

J. E. ADKINS, W. M. St. George's Lodge, No. 42.

B. S. MURRAY, W. M. Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64

J. M. McWHINNEY, W. M. The Tuscan Lodge, No. 195.

ARTHUR W. WHITE, W. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 209 A.

H. J. CHILDS, W. M. Corinthian Lodge, No. 330.

JOHN KELLEY, W. M. King Solomon's Lodge, No. 378.

R. D. A. HILLIER, W. M. Union Lodge, No. 380.

GEORGE F. MORRIS, D. D. G. M.

The M. W. the Grand Master expressed himself as being highly gratified with the reception given to him and to the Grand Lodge by the officers and members of the London lodges.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS OF REGRET.

Letters and telegrams expressing regret at being unable to attend the annual communication were read from M. W. Bros. R. T. Walkem, John Ross Robertson, R. W. Bro. J. R. Stuart, Grand Junior Warden, V. W. Bro. John Nicolle, Grand Director of Ceremonies, R. W. Bro. Rev. R. Campbell, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Canada; M. W. Bro. Charles M. Mead, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The M. W. the Grand Master granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last annual communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, and

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Forty-fourth Annual Communication, held in the City of Toronto, on the 19th and 20th days of July, A. D. 1899, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to subordinate lodges, the same be considered as read, and be now confirmed, and that the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bros. William Roaf, John M. Shaw and Geo. S. May, the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from lodges, reported the following as being present :

- No. 2. Niagara, Niagara.*
W. Bros. W. E. Lyall, Proxy, and J. G. Rousseau, P. M's.
- No. 3. Ancient St. John's, Kingston.*
W. Bro. J. Morgan, Shaw, W. M.
- No. 5. Sussex, Brockville.*
W. Bro. W. W. Wood, W. M.
- No. 6. The Barton, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. S. G. Moore, W. M. ; Bro. R. B. Griffith, S. W. ; M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson ; R. W. Bros. Gavin Stewart, Geo. C. Holden, A. T. Freed ; W. Bros. S. M. Kenny, H. B. Witton, T. Clappison, D. Wheeler, W. G. Henderson, J. G. Gauld and J. P. Steadman, P. M's.
- No. 7. Union, Grimsby.*
W. Bros. W. J. Drope, W. M. ; W. D. Forbes, A. C. Cole and W. F. Clark, P. M's.
- No. 10. Norfolk, Simcoe.*
Bro. R. S. McGill, S. W. ; W. Bro. J. G. Bottomley, P. M.
- No. 11. Moira, Belleville.*
W. Bro. C. Ashley, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. W. Latimer, V. W. Bro. John Newton, W. Bro. W. S. Morden, P. M's.
- No. 14. True Britons, Perth.*
Bro. J. M. Balderson, S. W.
- No. 15. St. George's, St. Catharines.*
R. W. Bro. C. H. Connor, W. Bro. C. G. McGee, P. M's.
- No. 16. St. Andrew's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. Rev. A. H. Reynor, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. Glanville, P. M.
- No. 17. St. John's, Cobourg.*
R. W. Bros. R. J. Craig, Proxy, and A. R. Hargraft, P. M's.
- No. 18. Prince Edward, Picton.*
W. Bro. Hugh Mulholland, W. M

- No. 20. St. John's, London.*
W. Bro. R. A. Baily, W. M.; Bro. O. Elwood, S. W.; Bro. J. A. Tancock, J. W.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Greer; V. W. Bros. M. D. Dawson, Jos. Hook; W. Bros. Jas. Shaw, J. J. Jones, John Smith, Alex. Findlay, D. W. Blackwell, H. Draney, M. J. Graham and John Robertson, P. M's.
- No. 21a. St John's, Vankleek Hill.*
W. Bro. G. N. Morison, P. M.
- No. 22. King Solomon's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. R. Walker, W. M.; V. W. Bros. W. J. Hambly, N. T. Lyon, W. Bro. A. A. Davis, P. M's.
- No. 23. Richmond, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bro. R. W. Hall, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 24. St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bro. C. J. Humphrey, W. M.
- No. 25. Ionic, Toronto.*
W. Bro. S. B. Sykes, W. M.; M. W. Bros. Kivas, Tully, W. R. White, R. W. Bros. W. Roaf, G. J. Bennett, C. W. Postlewaite; W. Bros. E. B. Brown and W. J. Eakins, P. M's.
- No. 26. Ontario, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. J. H. Colliuson, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson, P. M.
- No. 27. Strict Observance, Hamilton.*
W. Bros. W. C. Morton, W. M.; R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason, R. L. Gunn, T. M. Davis, T. W. Lester; W. Bros. Walter Park, J. H. McCabe, W. C. Breckenridge and P. D. Carse, P. M's.
- No. 30. Composite, Whitby.*
W. Bros. Fred. Hatch, W. M.; F. J. M. McMichael, P. M.
- No. 31. Jerusalem, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. C. B. Blair, W. M.; D. B. Simpson, P. M.
- No. 32. Amity, Dunnville.*
W. Bro. S. W. Brown, W. M.; Bro. Thos. Marshall, S. W.; Bros. S. Amsden and J. C. Eccles, P. M's.
- No. 33. Maitland, Goderich.*
W. Bro. W. D. Tye, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Jos. Beck, Wor. Bros. A. S. Chrystal and C. A. Hunter, P. M's.
- No. 34. Thistle, Amersburg.*
V. W. Bro. G. W. Gott, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 37. King Hiram, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. H. Rowland, W. M.; A. B. Boles and Chas. Choate, P. M's.
- No. 38. Trent, Trenton.*
W. Bro. G. R. Robertson, W. M.; R. H. Spencer, P. M.
- No. 39. Mount Zion, Brooklin.*
W. Bro. John Moore, W. M.

- No. 40. St. John's, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. J. T. Crawford, W. M.; Bro. A. Peter Nicol, S. W.; R. W. Bros. Wm. Birrell, Proxy; Thos. McCallum, W. G. Reid; V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister; W. Bros. Robt. Douglas, W. R. Job, W. Mallory, T. A. Somerville, J. F. Mercer and J. E. Riddell, P. M's.
- No. 41. St. George's, Kingsville.*
R. W. Bro. E. Allworth, W. M.; W. Bros. John Keith and S. L. McKay, P. M's.
- No. 42. St. George's, London.*
W. Bro. J. E. Adkins, W. M.; Bro. C. H. Ward, J. W.; R. W. Bros. T. H. Bunton, Isaac Waterman, A. B. Munson; V. W. Bros. H. Waterman, A. Ellis, J. Callard; W. Bros. W. Skinner, T. R. Parker, J. M. McIntosh, H. Baptz, John Hayman, Wm. Hayman, John Blanch, John Wilson, N. Seaun, W. Cnalter, J. A. Dennis and S. Baker, P. M's.
- No. 43. King Solomon's, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. J. S. Kenney, W. M.; V. W. Bro. J. S. Scarf; W. Bro. A. McGachie, P. M's.
- No. 44. St. Thomas, St. Thomas.*
W. Bro. J. A. Couse, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Samuel Dubber, W. Bro. J. S. Frazer, P. M's.
- No. 45. Brant, Brantford.*
W. Bro. F. W. Franks, P. M.
- No. 46. Wellington, Chatham.*
Bro. W. E. Campbell, S. W; V. W. Bro. D. W. B. Spry, P. M.
- No. 47. Great Western, Windsor.*
W. Bro. Geo. E. White, W. M.; Bros. S. Buchanan, S. W; H. Siebert, J. W.; R. W. Bro. B. Paine, V. W. Bros. P. A. Craig, Jos. Hall, W. Bros. D. L. Carley, Thos. Peters and G. B. Quamby, P. M's.
- No. 48. Madoc, Madoc.*
W. Bro. C. H. Tumuelty, W. M.
- No. 52. Dalhousie, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. Jas. Parrington, W. M.; R. W. Bros. G. S. May and E. D. Parlow, P. M's.
- No. 54. Vaughan, Maple.*
W. Bro. J. A. McDonald, W. M.
- No. 55. Merrickville, Merrickville.*
R. W. Bro. R. W. Watchorn, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 56. Victoria, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. W. D. Hull, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. Weir, P. M.
- No. 57. Harmony, Binbrook.*
R. W. Bro. Rev. Geo. Crystal, P. M.; W. Bro. Wm Malloy, Proxy.
- No. 58. Doric, Ottawa.*
W. Bros. John L. Culbert, W. M.; J. Robertson, P. M.

- No. 61. Acacia, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. S. A. Morgan, W. M. ; W. M. Bro. Hugh Murray,
V. W. Bro. Alex. Smith, W. Bros. A. R. White, Jas. B.
Smith, P. M's.
- No. 62. St. Andrew's, Caledonia.*
R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, V. W. Bro. Jas. Old, Proxy, W.
Bro. Jos. Bingham, P. M's.
- No. 63. St. John's, Carleton Place.*
W. Bro. Thomas Frazer, W. M.
- No. 64. Kilwinning, London.*
W. Bro. B. S. Murray, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. R. B. Hunger-
ford, V. W. Bros. J. H. Flock, Robt. Lewis, C. A. Sippi,
W. Bros. J. H. Butler, J. A. Ferguson. — Campbell, J. M.
Wood, A. A. Campbell, H. Sutherland, John Pall, W. H.
Morgan, Alex. McQueen, Francis Love, John, Overell, Jos.
Daeubra, L. W. Scandratt, C. C. Reed, G. W. Francis, P.
Birtwistle, A. O. Jeffery and John Ferguson, P. M's.
- No. 65. Rehoboam, Toronto.*
W. Bro. E. H. Briggs, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, P. M.
- No. 66. Durham, Newcastle.*
W. Bro. A. Farncombe, W. M.
- No. 68. St. John's, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. S. C. Parlo, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, W.
Bro. A. Rose, P. M's.
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- No. 72. Alma, Galt.*
W. Bros. J. W. Porteous, Proxy, W. Baird, P. M's.
- No. 73. St. James, St. Marys.*
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W. Bros. F. T. Riddell, Jas. Chalmers, E. W. Harding and
A. Carman, P. M's.
- No. 74. St. James, Bethel.*
W. Bro. W. W. Wood, Proxy.
- No. 75. St. John's, Toronto.*
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H. McKinnon, J. W. ; V. W. Bro. N. L. Steiner, W. Bro. W.
Simpson, P. M's.
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Bro. R. R. Fulton, W. Bros. H. J. Finkil and Rev. J. C.
Farthing, P. M's.
- No. 77. Faithful Brethren, Lindsay.*
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W. Bros. John J. McMahon and G. H. M. Baker, P. M's.
- No. 78. King Hiram, Tilsonburg.*
Bro. J. Aspinall, J. W. ; R. W. Bro. Wm. McDonald, P. M.

- No. 79. Simcoe, Bradford.*
W. Bro. Alvin Orton, P. M.
- No. 81. St. John's, Mount Brydges.*
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Bro. W. E. Sawyer, W. Bros. M. Bice, John Betts, Geo.
Lipsit and David Small, P. M's.
- No. 82. St. John's, Paris.*
W. Bro. R. E. Hare, W. M.; Bros. S. Y. Taylor, S. W.; W.
J. Logie, J. W.; R. W. Bro. Peter H. Cox, W. Bros. Jas. R.
Inksater, W. W. Patterson, P. M's.
- No. 83. Beaver, Strathroy.*
W. Bros. F. W. Atkinson, W. M.; A. E. Alexander, John
Mallon, W. J. Seed, Geo. McBeth, S. S. Donaldson, R. F.
Richardson, P. M's.
- No. 84. Clinton, Clinton.*
W. Bro. E. M. McLean, W. M.; V. W. Bro. A. J. Hallowey,
W. Bro. W. D. Fair, P. M's.
- No. 85. Rising Sun, Athens.*
W. Bros. Angus D. Cameron, Proxy, R. J. Read, P. M's.
- No. 86. Wilson, Toronto.*
W. Bros. Geo. McLeitn, S. W.; J. W. Siddall, J. W.; V. W.
Bros. E. M. Carleton, Alex. Patterson; W. Bros. J. J. Gee,
P. M's.
- No. 87. Markham Union, Markham.*
W. Bro. F. A. Reesor, W. M.; R. W. Bro. G. R. Van Zant
and W. Bro. J. B. Gould, P. M's.
- No. 88. St. George's, Owen Sound.*
Bro. Wy. Cliffe Marshall, S. W.; R. W. Bros. J. McLauchlan
and R. McKnight, P. M's.
- No. 90. Manitou, Collingwood.*
W. Bro. C. A. McDonald, W. M.; Bro. A. S. Knight, S. W.;
M. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson and W. Bro. W. T. Allen, P. M's.
- No. 91. Colborne, Colborne.*
W. Bro. G. H. Webb, W. M.
- No. 92. Cataraqui, Kingston.*
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 93. Northern Light, Kincardine.*
W. Bro. Hy. Collins, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn and
W. Bro. J. H. Scott, P. M's.
- No. 94. St. Mark's, Port Stanley.*
W. Bro. W. H. Edgecombe, P. M.
- No. 96. Corinthian, Barrie.*
W. Bro. J. L. Barnum, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. F. McWatt and
W. Bro. Alex. Cowan, P. M's.
- No. 97. Sharon, Sharon.*
W. Bro. J. T. Powers, P. M. and Proxy.

- No. 98. True Blue, Bolton.*
W. Bro. Jas. N. Bormen, W. M.
- No. 99. Tuscan, Newmarket.*
R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. M. and Proxy; W. Bros. J. E. Hollingsbeau and P. T. Lees, P. M's.
- No. 100. Valley, Dundas.*
W. Bro. Chas. Hetherington, W. M.; Bro. W. Lawson, S. W.; R. W. Bro. A. Latchaw, W. Bros. N. Greening and Wm. Forrest, P. M's.
- No. 101. Corinthian, Peterboro.*
W. Bro. John Beatty, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, P. M.
- No. 102. Maple Leaf, St. Catharines.*
W. Bros. P. J. Leubedrof, W. M.; Fred. A. Southcott, P. M.
- No. 104. St. John's, Norwich.*
W. Bros. Austin D. Ellis, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. McCurdy and W. Bro. T. Beresford Phepoe, P. M's.
- No. 105. St. Mark's, Niagara Falls South.*
W. Bro. R. Sloggette, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 106. Burford, Burford.*
W. Bro. J. C. Brown, W. M.
- No. 107. St. Paul's, Lambeth.*
W. Bro. W. A. Piper, W. M.; Bro. G. F. Thornicroft, J. W.; W. Bros. D. McPherson, T. Mountellier, A. Bogue, Jas. A. Kelly, W. R. Pincombe, G. A. Routledge, J. W. Crinklaw, John Thornicroft, David Irvine and A. Scott, P. M's.
- No. 108. Blenheim, Princeton.*
W. Bros. John Ramsay, W. M.; Jas. Smiley and F. J. Daniels, P. M's.
- No. 109. Albion, Haarrowsmith.*
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- No. 367. *St. George, Toronto.*
W. Bro. John Drew, W. M., and W. Bros. J. W. Hickson, W. B. Stoneham and John J. Thompson, P. M's.
- No. 368. *Salem, Brockville.*
W. Bros. W. W. Wood, Proxy, and John R. Wright, P. M.
- No. 369. *Mimico, Islington.*
W. Bros. A. B. Rice, W. M.; J. D. Evans and W. P. Gray, P. M's.
- No. 371. *Prince of Wales, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. J. W. Turley, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 372. *Palmer, Bridgeburg.*
W. Bro. T. J. Wilber, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. A. B. Hurrell, P. M.
- No. 373. *Copetstone, Welland.*
W. Bro. G. W. Sutherland, W. M.
- No. 374. *Keene, Keene.*
R. W. Bro. J. M. Shaw, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 376. *Unity, Huntsville.*
W. Bro. D. M. Grant, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. N. Shearer, P. M.
- No. 377. *Lorne, Shelburne.*
W. Bro. J. P. Marshall, W. M.
- No. 378. *King Solomon's, London West.*
W. Bro. John Kelly, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. Simpson, V. W. Bro. E. T. Essery, and W. Bros. A. R. Galpin, F. A. Andrews, W. G. Element and John Hobbs, P. M's.
- No. 379. *Middlesex, Bryanston.*
W. Bro. P. T. Broome, W. W.; Bro. J. J. Noble, J. W.; W. Bros. Alex. Grant, Fred. Fitzgerald and W. G. Shobottom, P. M's.
- No. 380. *Union, London.*
W. Bro. R. D. A. Hillier, W. M.; Bro. John Lawson, S. W.; R. W. Bro. Geo. F. Morris, and W. Bros. Geo. Duncan, W. C. Fitzgerald, Stephen Grant, O. J. Bridle, Harry Stratfold

Ed. Gardiner, Frank Hooper, Neil McNeil, D. Schwaitzer,
Geo. Norton, R. A. Carrothers and H. M. Ryan, P. M's.

- No. 382. *Doric, Hamilton.*
Bro. G. H. Lannigan, S. W.; W. Bros. Jas. Cheyne, Thos. Cheyne, Thos. Smith, Fred. Walker, H. J. Gilbert, G. W. Purrott and C. Smith, P. M's.
- No. 383. *Henderson, West Winchester.*
W. Bros. S. S. R. Weller, W. M., and G. Johnson, P. M.
- No. 384. *Alpha, Toronto.*
W. Bros. R. Ross, W. M., and J. W. St. John, P. M.
- No. 385. *Spry, Beeton.*
W. Bro. J. R. Croft, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 386. *McColl, West Lorne.*
W. Bros. D. McKillop, W. M., and D. F. Webster, P. M.
- No. 388. *Henderson, Ilderton.*
W. Bro. E. Ironside, W. M.; Bro. P. Bowey, J. W.; R. W. Bro. T. A. Robson, and W. Bros. Thos. Olliver, J. D. O'Neil, Max Kohl, Arch. Fraser and W. C. Martin, P. M's.
- No. 391. *Howard, Ridgetown.*
W. Bro. E. Porter, W. M.; V. W. Bro. G. Middleditch, P. M.
- No. 392. *Huron, Camlachie.*
W. Bro. C. O. Trusler, W. M.; John Anderson, Thos. Crawford and S. W. Trusler, P. M's.
- No. 394. *King Solomon's, Thamesford.*
W. Bro. W. Bevins, W. M.; Bro. James Bargent, S. W.; W. Bros. J. G. McNee, Frank Patterson, J. Clubb, J. McWilliams, and J. N. Smith, P. M's.
- No. 396. *Cedar, Wiarton.*
W. Bros. John McAuley, P. M., Proxy, and W. J. Ferguson, P. M.
- No. 395. *Leopold, Brigden.*
W. Bro. Frank Nicoll, Proxy.
- No. 398. *Victoria, Kirkfield.*
R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, Proxy.
- No. 399. *Moffat, Harrietsville.*
W. Bros. J. H. O'Neil, Proxy, and J. J. Jolly, J. W. Keesler, J. Campbell and Thos. McKee, P. M's.
- No. 400. *Oakville, Oakville.*
W. Bros. J. C. Ford, P. M., W. H. Robinson, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 402. *Central, Essex Centre.*
W. Bro. J. W. Brien, W. M.
- No. 403. *Windsor, Windsor.*
W. Bro. F. Bridges, W. M.; Bros. F. P. Gaxin, S. W., and R. H. Revell, J. W.; W. Bros. A. N. Pettitt, J. S. Edgar and A. Whitaker, P. M's.

- No. 404. *Lorne, Tamworth.*
W. Bro. John McKnight, W. M.
- No. 405 *Mattawa, Mattawa.*
W. Bro. C. W. Haentschel, J. W.
- No. 406. *The Spry, Fencelon Falls.*
R. W. Bro J. M. Shaw, Proxy.
- No. 408. *Murray, Beaverton.*
W. Bro. W. Williamson, W. M.
- No. 409. *Golden Rule, Gravenhurst.*
W. Bro. W. W. Winfield, W. M.
- No. 410. *Zeta, Toronto.*
W. Bro. T. G. Malcolm, W. M ; Bro. R. H. Christie, S. W.
W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, P. M.
- No. 411. *Rodney, Rodney.*
W. Bro. Thos. Bushy, W. M. ; Bro. F. H. Wilson, J. W.
- No. 413. *Narkhali, Tilbury.*
W. Bros. Jas. Reynolds, P. M., and J. R. Pa'ler P. M., and
Proxy.
- No. 414. *Pequonga, Rat Portage.*
R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, Proxy.
- No. 416. *Lyn, Lyn.*
W. Bros. A. E. Cumming, W. M., and G. W. Grant, P. M.
- No. 417. *Kecwatin, Kecwatin.*
R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, Proxy.
- No. 418. *Maxville, Maxville.*
W. Bro. T. W. Munro, W. M.
- No. 419. *Bismarck, Point Edward.*
W. Bro. J. W. Jackson, W. M.
- No. 420. *Nipissing, North Bay.*
W. Bros. H. D. Leask, W. M., and A. J. Young and Geo. W.
Liddle, P. M's.
- No. 421. *Scott, Grand Valley.*
W. Bro. R. F. Taylor, W. M.
- No. 422. *Star of the East, Bothwell.*
R. W. Bro. W. R. Hickey.
- No. 423. *Strong, Sundridge.*
W. Bro. A. J. Whitby, W. M.
- No. 425. *St. Clair, Sombra.*
W. Bro. Alex. Saunders, Proxy.
- No. 426. *Stanley, Toronto Junction.*
W. Bro. E. J. Anderson, W. M. ; Bro. J. Patterson, J. W. ;
W. Bro. R. S. McCormick, P. M.
- No. 427. *Nickel, Sudbury.*
W. Bro. R. H. Arthur, W. M. ; Bro. J. F. Gill, S. W.

- No. 428. *Fidelity, Port Perry.*
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Allen, Proxy.
- No. 429. *Port Elgin, Port Elgin.*
R. W. Bro. Jas. Dundas, Proxy.
- No. 430. *Acacia, East Toronto.*
W. Bros. John Parsell, P. M., Proxy, and Rev. W. S. Baynes Reed, P. M.
- No. 431. *Moravian Eden Grove.*
W. Bro. Thos. S. Edgar, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 432. *Hanover, Hanover.*
R. W. Bro. Geo. Landerkin, P. M.; W. Bro. John Mitchell, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 433. *Bonnechere, Eganville.*
R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt, Proxy.
- No. 434. *Algonquin, Emsdale.*
W. Bros. R. McConkey, W. M., and H. S. Barber, P. M.
- No. 435. *Havelock, Havelock.*
W. Bro. W. S. Dodd, W. M.
- No. 437. *Tuscan, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. A. Kidd, W. M.
- No. 438. *Harmony, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. H. Shaw, W. M.; V. W. Bro. Geo. E. Patterson, P. M.
- No. 439. *Alexandria, Alexandria.*
W. Bro. T. W. Munro, Proxy.
- No. 440. *Arcadia, Minden.*
W. Bro. A. H. Brandon, W. M.
- No. 441. *Westport, Westport.*
W. Bro. Robert Flegg, W. M.
- No. 442. *Dymont, Thessalon.*
W. Bro. A. E. Dymont, W. M.
- No. 444. *Niletis, Creemore.*
W. Bro. H. M. Wright, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 445. *Lake of the Woods, Rat Portage.*
R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 446. *Granite, Fort Frances.*
R. W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, Proxy.
- No. 447. *Sturgeon Falls, Sturgeon Falls.*
W. Bro. W. Anderson, W. M.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following address to the brethren assembled in Grand Communication :

BRETHREN OF GRAND LODGE :

In this beautiful and prosperous city of Western Ontario I extend to one and all a fraternal welcome to the Forty-fifth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. I have anxiously looked forward to this reunion of old friends, to the pleasure of grasping their hands and of exchanging fraternal greetings. Around me are many brethren who for the first time are about to take part in our deliberations. I extend to them the right hand of fellowship and ask their assistance in legislating for the future welfare of Canadian Masonry. During the session important duties will be cast upon you. May you enter upon the discharge of the same with a determination that only such measures as redound to the credit of the Craft will be adopted, and may wisdom and justice be brought to bear upon all your transactions.

Two years ago you entrusted me with the guidance of Craft matters in this jurisdiction. No greater honor could be conferred upon any man ; no greater responsibility could be assumed by any mortal. Whether I have come up to your expectations is a verdict which I anxiously await, but no matter what the verdict may be, I trust you will at all events give me credit for bringing to bear upon my work all the zeal, energy and ability with which Providence has endowed me. I have gone in and out among my brethren, visiting them in their homes, giving advice and encouragement, pointing out to them the benefits of Freemasonry, and the duties cast upon each of them exemplifying Craft teachings by his life and conduct. I have been treated with uniform kindness and consideration by all my brethren, and have been ably assisted by loyal, zealous and enthusiastic Deputies in every district in the Province. I cannot extol too highly the work of these brethren, without whose assistance my work would have been fruitless.

All my requests were cheerfully complied with, and no sacrifice was considered too great in the performance of duties cast upon them. I can safely assert, without fear of contradiction, that the great prosperity which we now enjoy is due in a great measure to these indefatigable workers. In commending them to you I cannot do better than quote an American brother: "They are the arteries through which flow the life-blood of our institution. It is only through them that the Lodges can hope to receive annual visitations from Grand Lodge Officers, and these visitations not only awake renewed interest, but they create a desire on the part of the members for more light in Masonry."

It is a pleasure to again note the reports of peace and prosperity from every district in the jurisdiction. From correspondence of my Deputies, I am able to assure you of a respectable increase in our membership. I find that skilled Brethren preside over the Lodges, and that no appeal for charity has been neglected. It will be gratifying to learn that during the year Grand Lodge expended in charitable grants the sum of \$14,085, and that the subordinate lodges expended for the same purpose \$11,901.30, making a total of \$25,986.30, without taking into account the local Boards of Relief; while large sums have been contributed by the Lodges in aid of the Sick Children's Hospital, the Patriotic Fund, the Red Cross Fund, and the Ottawa Fire sufferers. Our receipts during the year have exceeded those of any previous year, while our membership roll shows a net increase of 1,238, making the total membership of Grand Lodge 26,195. We continue to hold, and I trust, merit the friendship and good-will of every legitimate Grand Lodge in the world.

IN MEMORIAM.

While we rejoice in the prosperity which we now enjoy, while our faces light up with pleasure as the forms of old and cherished friends come into view, we return thanks to a kind Providence that Death has made but few breaches in our ranks. Year after year we pay a tribute of love to the memory of distinguished Brethren who have been called to their reward, but by some oversight no memorial page is set apart to the memory

of those who aspired not to be among the rulers of the Craft, but rather preferred to be of the class who serve, but whose lives have been an exemplification of the best teachings of Masonry. I desire, therefore, to add my tribute to this class, whom I shall term the nameless dead. To these desolate homes, to those whose hearts are rent with grief, we send a message of consolation, as well as an assurance that the memory of their loved ones is cherished in our hearts. Let us, my Brethren, so live that we be not surprised by death and leave behind us worthless memories. Let us continually bear in mind:—

“ There is a summons that all must heed,
 No matter what the belief or creed,
 High of station, or low of state,
 It comes to all of them, soon or late.
 In vain the aged, with tottering mien,
 Pleads that the summons is not for him,
 Doubtful, yet hopeful, clinging to life;
 A year or two more of trouble and strife.
 Careless the youth, no summons he fears,
 Life to him is a voyage of joy, not of tears;
 But the messenger comes, he cannot escape,
 It is sure as the pole star, relentless as fate,
 Craftsmen, have your work prepared,
 Marked and numbered, duly squared,
 That, when presented, no excuse
 Shall keep it from the builder's use.”

There has been forwarded to me the following names of those who have passed away:

R. W. Bro. R. H. Collins, of Exeter, P. D. D. G. M., died last year. He was a member of Lebanon Forest Lodge, of Exeter, and was P. D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, a position which he filled with ability and dignity, and earned the love and admiration of his Brethren.

R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, of Chatham, died October 4th, 1899. He was a P. D. D. G. M. of London District when the Western Peninsula was embraced in that District.

R. W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi died at Peterboro on the 16th October, 1899, at the advanced age of 87 years. By his death the Craft loses one of its oldest and most respected members. He was a member of Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, and was its Chaplain at the time of his

death. He was a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge before the organization of the present Grand Lodge. He was the Representative near this Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Chili.

R. W. Bro. Robert A. Mackay, of St. Thomas, died on the 23rd day of December, 1899. He was a member of St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44, and was P. D. D. G. M. of London District at the time of his death. He was the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Quebec near this Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. James Reynolds, of Brockville, the Judge of the County Court of the Counties of Leeds and Grenville. He was a P. D. D. G. M. of the District.

I recommend that memorial pages in our Proceedings be set apart to the memory of these Brethren.

We sympathize with Sister Grand Lodges in losses which they suffered by death during the year.

I was notified of the passing away of M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, L.L.D., at Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., in August, 1899. His remains were interred with Masonic honors at Richmond, Quebec, where he resided for so many years. He was an enthusiastic Mason, and aided in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and was elected its first Grand Master, a position which he occupied for nine years. He was an author of marked ability, and the Quebec Brethren are indebted to him for the history of Freemasonry in that Province. He was at the time of his death the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

R. W. Bro. Chas. E. Ide, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York, died at Jacksonville, Florida, on December 9th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Henry Clay Tompkins, P. G. M., of Alabama, died at Montgomery, September 12th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. John S. Cross, P. G. M., of Michigan, died at Bangor, September 18th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Partridge, P. G. M., also of Michigan, died during the present month.

M. W. Bro. Alex. M. Evans, P. G. M., of West Virginia, died at Middleway, October 16th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Harrison Dills, P. G. M., of Illinois, died November 1st, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Alphonso Barto, P. G. M., of Minnesota, died November 4th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Lee A. Hall, P. G. H. M., of Missouri, died December 15th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. J. H. Welsh, P. G. M., Connecticut, died December 16th, 1899.

M. W. Bro. Robert Clow, P. G. M., of Oregon, died January 5th, 1900.

M. W. Bro. Theo. G. Reames, P. G. M., of Oregon, died February 21st, 1900.

M. W. Bro. Samuel W. Williams, P. G. M., of Arkansas, died March 14th, 1900.

M. W. Bro. Clark Buckingham, P. G. M., of Connecticut, died March 7th, 1900.

M. W. Bro. Jas. E. Edmiston, P. G. M., of Connecticut near Grand Lodge of Washington, died at Dayton on May 9th, 1900.

R. W. Bro. Humphrey Minchin, M. B., our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, died during the spring of this year.

The Masons, not only of England, but of the world, have suffered a loss by the sudden death of Bro. John Lane, F. C. A., of Torquay, the Masonic Statistician of England. He was the author of "Masonic Records," in the preparation of which he spent ten years' time, and which is acknowledged as one of the most valuable books in connection with the records of Freemasonry in the world. He was an Accountant of great ability, and no man was more popular or had more friends.

GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES.

I have recommended the following brethren for appointment near this Grand Lodge:

M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P., P. G. M., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in the place of R. W. Bro. Robert A. McKay, deceased.

R. W. the Hon. James Sutherland, M. P., P. C., as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Victoria, in place of M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, resigned.

Wor. Bro. A. L. Malone, as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Chili, in place of R. W. Bro. V. Clementi, deceased.

At the request of the Grand Masters of the several Grand Lodges hereinafter mentioned, I have appointed the following named brethren Grand Representatives

for this Grand Lodge near the several Grand Lodges hereinafter named:

M. W. Bro. Yancy C. Blaclock, P. G. M., near the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Bro. Edward Lavergne, near the Grand Lodge of Peru.

M. W. Bro. Isaac H. Stearns, P. G. M., near the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

W. Bro. The Right Hon. Gerald Fitzgibbon, Lord Justice of the Irish Court of Appeal, near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in place of R. W. Bro. Humphrey Minchin, deceased

BY-LAWS.

I have during the year settled and approved of By-laws and Amendments to By-laws of a great number of lodges, a list of which will be presented to you by the Grand Secretary.

NEW LODGES

During the year I granted a dispensation for the formation of a lodge at Sturgeon Falls, but before doing so I gave the matter careful consideration, and satisfied myself that not only was there a necessity for a lodge in the locality, but that the prospects for the future were very bright. Sturgeon Falls has a population of two thousand. No lodge exists within twenty-five miles of the place, and when I considered the number of pulp and lumber mills in operation in the place, I had no hesitation in granting the request of the brethren. The books and papers of the Lodge will be placed before the Board for the purpose of obtaining a Warrant.

DEDICATIONS

Only two applications to dedicate Lodge rooms were received by me during the year. On the 27th day of October, 1899, I conducted the dedication ceremonies in connection with Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford, where I was ably assisted by R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, P. D. D. G. M., V. W. Bro. N. Shaffley, and a number of the local and Barrie Brethren.

On the 25th of April, 1900, the Lodge rooms of the Toronto Masons, in the Temple Building of that city, were dedicated by me, assisted by the Officers of Grand

Lodge, and in the presence of a very large gathering of the brethren of the City and District. The meeting was held under the auspices of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16. Amongst the Grand Lodge Officers present were R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M.; M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, G. T.; R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, G. S.; V. W. Bro. John Nicolle, G. D. of C.; V. W. Bro. E. M. Carleton, G. S.; R. W. Bro. F. G. Inwood, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, D. D. G. M.; W. Bro. the Rev. Dr. Reynar, acting Grand Chaplain, and M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. I had the extreme pleasure of introducing to the meeting M. W. Bro. Thomas Robinson, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, who enlightened the Brethren with an account of the progress of the Craft in the Prairie Province.

DISPENSATIONS.

I was obliged to refuse nearly all applications for dispensations during the year. The experience of last year did not deter the brethren in requesting the exercise of the dispensing power for various objects. One of them was rather unique in character, viz., to wear regalia at a dance, to take place upon the conclusion of games and horse-racing, held under the auspices of one of our Lodges. It is needless to give you an extract from the letter which I wrote in reply; sufficient to say, in future the Lodge will adopt a method for raising money for Lodge purposes more in keeping with the dignity of the Craft. An erroneous idea appears to have possessed the Brethren with regard to the initiation of a candidate by a Lodge other than that having jurisdiction over the candidate. In some cases it was considered that a dispensation should have been granted without consulting the Lodges interested, while in other cases it was considered that the consent of the Lodge interested was all sufficient, or if such consent could not be obtained, a return of the initiation fee was the redress offered. The consent of the Grand Master, in whom alone authority on the subject rested, was considered unnecessary. The W.M. was held responsible in each case, and violations of the Constitution ceased. In one case the reason given why a dispensation should

issue was the fear of the candidate that he would be rejected in the Lodge at his place of residence on account of political bias. Suffice it to say the applicant is still outside the pale of Masonry. All applications for the purpose of conferring degrees out of time, with one exception, were refused. Experience has taught me that the Craft has no crying need for a man whose desire to become a member suddenly arises when about to change his place of residence from one country to another. I agree with the following remarks of a M. W. Bro. on this subject: "We have carefully observed the cases of many who were hurried through regardless of time, and so far as our knowledge extends, the good of Masonry has not been advanced by the example of those who received the degrees under such circumstances, nor have those who were so made had their knowledge of the great principles of Freemasonry increased by the plan adopted in bringing them to light. The old paths are best, and we wish that the power to grant such dispensations had never been thought of in connection with the powers and rights of the Grand Master." I have adhered to the principle that the Constitution governs the Grand Master, as well as the youngest member of the Lodge.

CORNER STONES.

During the year I called four special meetings of Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the corner stones of Religious and Educational Institutions. This is peculiarly Craft work. The question naturally arises, Why is the Craft entitled to prominence in such work? M. W. Bro. Chas. C. Hutchinson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, satisfactorily answers the question for me. He replies: "Because our Craft is founded upon the soundest moral principles, and the lessons and truths taught by it are of the purest and most ennobling character, chief among which are the belief in the Supreme Being, the great Artificer or the Universe, in the immortality of the soul, and the existence of a future state of happiness. These tenets entitle it as a body qualified by moral worth. As an order, we are the custodians of the arts, legends and traditions of the ancient builders, whose legitimate suc-

cessors we claim to be. This qualifies us as to capability in the peculiar province of builders. Our ritualistic forms and ceremonies are more beautiful and impressive upon such occasions than the forms of other organizations, being the crystalization of the wisdom of centuries, while the beauties of theirs are largely borrowed from us. The venerable history of the Order, its unsectarian nature and its representative composition strengthen and confirm the title of the Masonic fraternity to officiate as the sponsors of public beneficent institutions."

I consider it an honor to be invited to take part in these ceremonies. I appeared before the public with Reverend Brethren who occupy leading positions in Churches of all Christian denominations. I trust on such occasions I have been enabled to show the strong connection which exists between the Church and the Craft, between Education and Freemasonry, and to brush away many doubts from the minds of those who misconceived the aims and purposes of the Order.

On Friday, the 18th day of August, upon the invitation of St. Johns Anglican Church, Tilsonburg, forwarded through King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, over which the Rev. E. W. Hughes, Rector of the Church, presides as W. M., I laid the corner stone of their new church, at the corner of Bidwell and Ridout streets, in the presence of the Brethren and a large number of the citizens of the town and of the adjoining towns and villages. Mr. A. E. Raynes, Town Clerk and Churchwarden, welcomed me and my Brethren in eloquent terms. I was assisted in the ceremony by the Deputy Grand Master; R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason; R. W. Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Davis, P. G. C.; R. W. Bro. A. W. Crysler, D. D. G. M., of Wilson District; R. W. Bro. G. F. Morris, D. D. G. M., of London District; R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis, G. R., and V. W. Bro. E. T. Essery, G. J. D.

At Merritton, on the 9th day of September, 1899, I laid the corner stone of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, of which the Rev. Mr. Robertson is the pastor, in the presence of a large concourse of people and members of the Craft from Thorold, St. Catharines, and the surrounding country. I was ably assisted by the

Grand Secretary, R. W. Bros. T. M. Davis, G. R.; J. B. McIntyre, Donald Robertson, and Rev. W. A. Cook, of Thorold. At the conclusion of the ceremony the ladies of the church tendered us a banquet in the Town Hall.

Upon the invitation of the Board of School Trustees of the town of Welland, I laid the corner stone of the new Central School building, on the -5th day of June, 1900. The occasion was the first Masonic function of its kind in the County Town, and attracted a large number of Brethren and visitors. Among the members of the Craft present were R. W. Bros. J. H. Crow, D. D. G. M.; I. P. Wilson, P. D. D. G. M.; T. M. Davis, G. R.; R. L. Gunn, P. D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. N. Shafley, G. S.; Rev. Dr. A. H. Reynar, of Victoria College, Acting Grand Chaplain, and Rev. W. A. Cook; W. Bros. B. J. Leubsdorf, George Burch, and a number of brethren from St. Catharines, Merritton and Thorold. An interesting part of the ceremony was the musical program rendered by the children of the school.

On the 2nd of July, 1900, the corner stone of St. Thomas' Anglican Church, near Owen Sound, of which the Rev. Bro. Franklin is Rector, was laid with Masonic honors by my representative, R. W. Bro. James McLauchlan, P. G. S. W., assisted by R. W. Bro. Judge Creasor, R. W. Bro. R. H. McKnight, V. W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, and W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Waits as Grand Chaplain, and numerous Brethren from Owen Sound. My thanks are due the Rector for his hospitable treatment of the Brethren.

OFFICIAL AND FRATERNAL VISITS.

During the year I have visited every section of the Province, with the exception of the extreme north. Time will not permit of more than a brief reference to some of the visits made, and of a few matters which presented themselves for contemplation during such visits. I will ever retain in kind remembrance the courtesy and kindness extended to me on all occasions by my Brethren. I have endeavored to get at their hearts, to learn their wants, to listen to their complaints, to give instruction, to smooth over difficulties, to teach them their duty to their fellowmen and to clear the Temple of those who would make Masonry a by-word and a

reproach. I have continued my crusade in bringing back to the fold the demitted member, and the unfortunate Brother whose only crime was poverty and inability to pay dues, and whose Brethren forgot the behests and warnings contained in the charity lecture, and who, if they ever heard of the five points of tellowship, had managed to forget that it had any application to the necessities of the Brother whom they suspended for not devoting to the Lodge coffers the few dollars required for the maintenance of his family. I have met with success in Lodges visited by me. I have no fear of the ultimate success if the D. D. G. M.'s and W. M.'s will continue the good work under the advice of my successor, who is with me on this subject. I do not desire to deal with matters contained in my address of last year, although similar cases have come before me during the past year. I have great faith in the influence of Masonry, not only on mankind in general, but on Nations. The day has long passed when the visit of a Grand Master was the occasion of a carousal. In this jurisdiction the members expect to benefit, and have, I trust, benefited morally and intellectually from the visits of Grand Lodge officers. In this practical age our aim must be to demonstrate the practical utility of the Institution to mankind. I am thoroughly in accord with the Brother who, while glorifying the Order and commending its teachings, yet lamented that upon some the lessons taught round our altar failed to make the impress designed upon his heart. He exclaimed: "We should advertise for men; Men wanted. Give us men made in the image of their Creator, and Masonry will have no trouble in convincing the world of its good effects. Elevate the standard high; none but the worthy should find an entrance through our portals."

I can, however, convey my ideas concerning the Craft and our duties as Craftsmen by culling, with your permission, from the thoughts of others:

"Masonry is intensely religious, and its foundation principles are belief in God."

"Masonry is love; love toward man, love for the beautiful, brotherly love, love for the good, the honest, the true."

"Masonry is not dollars and cents, neither has it selfish ends to attain, but is a field of action for him who

seeks to benefit his fellowman and cultivate his own highest nature."

"Masonry is only a means to the end of our highest development. Its true primary aim is to build up character, to cultivate manhood, and it is only by a firm adherence to this aim that we can hope to attain the great ultimate purposes of our organization. The parliament of man, the federation of the world, can never be realized except by a reliance upon the individual citizen, for the purity of the home is the purity of the individual lives that cluster around the fireside. We would fraternise the world, but the growth must be from within, the development of the inner individual life. The secret of such development of individual character is not to be found in riches, in power, in pomp, fame or preferment. It is not to be found in mere profession of faith, in dogma or in creed, nor in the adoption of a beautiful system of morals and precepts such as ours. It is to be found rather in the true conception and faithful performance of duty."

"We mumble our rituals until letter perfect; we deliver ourselves of fine sentiments of brotherly love and charity, pay our dues and attend lodge occasionally, then rest content, coddling ourselves the while with the notion that we are good Masons. But we are not; more than that is required to make a good Mason. What are you doing in the active practice of charity out of the Lodge? The true Masonic idea is not to make you better than other people, but to make you better than yourself by leading you to the doing of good deeds for others. Have you helped some unfortunate on his way—some one less favored than you by the ever-shifting tides on life's uncertain sea? Have you helped some fallen sister neighbor to rise and see the light once more, or have you joined the pack at the first yelp to cry her down? Yes, these are idle questions, I know; they are easily spoken, easily heard, and still more easily forgotten, but they suggest the only true conception or interpretation of Masonic duty."

Such thoughts as these will furnish a theme for Grand Lodge officers when paying official visits. Make your visit pleasant and instructive, so that the brethren will look forward with pleasure to your return.

With regret I have to report that I noticed in some Lodges the introduction of ward politics in the election of officers: tickets were gotten up, an opposition camp formed, and open, unblushing canvassing indulged in. I condemned the practice in strong terms, but on two occasions I was met with the answer that so long as Grand Lodge set the example, the subordinate lodges should not be condemned; and in order to corroborate the charge, a brother of the Frontenac District stated that he was working under the directions and in the interest of a candidate for Grand Lodge honors, while several Brethren in Niagara District produced letters from and on behalf of such candidates. Should not such answers have silenced any Grand Master? The Fountain cannot rise higher than its source. The Grand Lodge is, and should be, a pattern for the subordinate bodies. If the work of the Grand Master and his officers is to bear fruit, their hands should not be tied by the conduct of any member of Grand Lodge. Rules are laid down year after year by Grand Lodge for the guidance of subordinate lodges in these matters. The same rules should, in my opinion, be equally as applicable to Grand Lodge affairs. Persistence in this line of conduct will drag Masonry to as low a level as pot-house politics, and no man of respectability will allow his name to be mentioned in connection with office. I believe firmly that such conduct in Grand Lodge is exceptionable, and the remedy is in your hands. I ask you to read carefully the remarks of M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson on this subject. I request you to adopt the remedy suggested by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, in 1897, namely, to cast your vote against, instead of for, the candidate who thus approaches you. I ask you to listen to the voice of Illinois on this subject: "To receive recognition and promotion in Masonry is an honorable ambition, but to obtain it there is but one Masonic method of electioneering, and that is to discharge whatever duty may be assigned to one with fidelity and to the very best of one's ability. In this way he will surely command the respect and good-will of his Brethren, whether they are able to find an official place for him or not."

Another matter which has become very common, and to which I drew the attention of the Brethren, is the un-

warranted display in Lodges of decorations and jewels not recognized in Craft Masonry. Every case that came under my notice was placed in the hands of the Director of Ceremonies, who insisted on a proper observance of the Constitution. The Grand Lodge of England has laid down a very strict rule on this subject, and we cannot do better than follow in its footsteps. Decorations and titles not earned in Craft duties are no evidence of ability, wisdom or zeal in work confined to our Lodges.

I desire also to draw the attention of Grand Lodge to a subject with which I have been obliged to grapple, namely, the distribution of "begging circulars" and "chain letters," issued for various purposes, viz.: to build a Masonic Hall, to aid a Brother who had lost his property by fire, to assist in paying off a mortgage on a Brother's property, to assist a Brother financially embarrassed, to rebuild a mill and purchase machinery, to support aged and infirm Masons, and to erect a Masonic Hall. Every Lodge in the jurisdiction has been flooded with these circulars. The Brethren have been imposed upon and the privileges of Masonry abused. No greater fraud was ever invented by the mind of mortal than the "chain letter." Accompanying it is a reminder to the recipient that any neglect on his part to forward same to his friends (to be victimized) is a breach of Masonic obligation. Some of these chain letters found their way into the States of Michigan and Oklahoma, and when the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Michigan "broke" the chain in his State, and returned the letters, not desiring to allow his Brethren to be swindled, he received an insulting letter from one of our members. All praise to R. W. Bro. Conover for grappling with the scourge and reporting the case to us. This disgraceful abuse of Masonry has now ceased in the jurisdiction, and if Bro. Conover had not shown a kind, fraternal spirit when upon my instructions the erring brother forwarded an apology to him, one member of the Craft in Ontario at all events would not have had the privilege he now enjoys of being an affiliated Mason. Whether the money in the other cases was returned I have not learned, but I desire Grand Lodge to express itself on this question in unmistakable terms. The report of the Committee on Be-

nevolence for the year 1898 only deals with one phase of the subject.

The Lodges I visited are as follows: Ionic 25, Harmony 438, Zetland 326, Georgina 343, Oxford 70, St. George 367, Wilson 86, Ancient St. John 3, Cataraqui 92, Minden 253, Simcoe 79, Rehoboam 65, Alpha 384, Stanley 426, St. George 15, Maple Leaf 103, Temple 296, King Hiram 37, St. John 68, Barton 6, King Solomon's 22, Merritt 168, Ashlar 247, and King Hiram 78.

On the 31st day of May I attended the District Lodge of Instrucion held at Kingston by R. W. Bro. A. Shaw, D. D. G. M. With one or two exceptions every Lodge in the district was represented. The work was correctly and impressively exemplified and much valuable information imparted to the Brethren. I had the pleasure of meeting M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, P. G. M., on this occasion, and was delighted with his remarks on the various Masonic questions submitted. Bro. Shaw is a painstaking, enthusiastic worker, and is entitled to the great praise bestowed upon him by the Brethren.

On the ninth day of November, 1899, the Grand Secretary and I spent a very enjoyable and pleasant evening with the Masters and Past Masters of the London District. The presence of the fair sex at the banquet table increased the pleasure of the gathering.

On the 27th of January, 1900, accompanied by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, P. G. M., and R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason and R. B. Hungerford and a number of Grand Lodge Officers past and present, I paid the return visit due to the Grand Lodge of Michigan, at its annual session, in the City of Detroit. We were introduced by M. W. Bro. Hugh McCurdy, P. G. M., and M. W. Bro. John W. Finch, our worthy Representative, and were received in most eloquent terms by M. W. Bro. Frank Lodge, the Grand Master, who assured us that Canadian Masons would always find the warm hand of Michigan Masons extended to them. All sentiments on international friendship were enthusiastically applauded. On your behalf I presented the Grand Lodge with a handsome silver loving cup.

On the 2nd of March, 1900, I visited Rehoboam Lodge, and had the pleasure of assisting in the reception and entertainment of the Brethren of Erie Lodge, Buf-

falo, U. S. A. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto (my Mother Lodge), celebrated its 25th anniversary on the 23rd of March, 1900. The old Past Masters of the Lodge took charge of the work of conferring degrees. Over 500 Brethren partook of the hospitality of the Lodge. A most commendable way adopted by the Lodge to mark its anniversary was the presentation of \$2,000 in gold to M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Chairman of the Sick Children's Hospital Trust, to endow a cot in the Institution to be known as the Zetland Cot. In accepting the gift, M. W. Bro. Robertson made an eloquent reply, in the course of which he said: "I know Zetland Lodge is as permanent as the British Empire, and this night's gift to the Hospital for Sick Children is as immortal as Mercy and will go on doing good to the little ones when we have grown old or gone home." The Sick Children's Hospital deserves generous support from the Craft in Ontario. Bro. Robertson has so identified himself with it that it is looked upon as a Masonic Charity, although the fact remains that the only support it receives from us is the \$2,000 granted some years ago to a Grand Lodge Cot and the gifts received at Christmas time from the subordinate lodges. Are you aware that a Mason's child is preferred in this Institution; that care, medicine and treatment are given to the child without fee, if the parents cannot afford to pay? Hundreds of the children of our brethren are cured of their ailments and affliction, and are thereby given an opportunity of fighting life's battles. I hold it to be the duty of every Grand Master of the Grand Lodge to visit the hospital during his term of office, so that he may be enabled to acquaint his brethren with its value to the Craft.

The Hamilton Brethren never do things by halves. This was evidenced by the magnificent reception given to me by the brethren on the 20th of April last. I was received in the Masonic Hall by some five hundred members and their friends. M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, as Chairman, presented me with an engrossed address signed by the Masters of all the Lodges. The events of the evening will always be a pleasant rec-

ollection to me. I was accompanied by M. W. Bro. Thomas Robinson, P. G. M., of Manitoba.

I had the pleasure again of visiting Hamilton on the 2nd of May last as a guest of Barton Lodge, No. 6. It proved to be a patriotic night in every sense of the word. I had the pleasure of witnessing an exemplification of the Third Degree, in which M. W. Bro. William Gibson, P. G. M., took part. An interesting feature of the gathering, which produced an outburst of patriotic feeling, was the presentation of a British flag to the Lodge by the Past Masters. The flag escort consisted of three brethren, sergeants of the 13th Regiment, in full uniform and with fixed bayonets. R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, P. D. D. G. M., made the presentation in an eloquent speech, which was ably and eloquently responded to by the W. M., Bro. J. P. Steedman. The enthusiasm of the members was again aroused when one of the choir sang Bro. Freed's new song, The Daddy of Them All. I regret that space will not permit of the production of the same.

On the 7th of June last a reception was tendered me by the three Lodges in St. Catharines. R. W. Bros. Dewey, from New York, and a number of Brethren J. H. Crow, I. P. Willson, John W. McCoy, R. W. Bro. from Buffalo, Rochester, Lockport, Suspension Bridge, Michigan, Welland, and Brantford were in attendance. A noticeable feature of the evening was the unanimity of the remarks of the speakers relative to the closer union of the two great Anglo-Saxon nations of the earth.

Nearly two hundred Masons of Woodstock, under the leadership of W. Bro. Rev. J. C. Farthing, honored me with a banquet at Woodstock on the 10th of October last. There were present R. W. Bros. A. W. Crysler, D. D. G. M.; J. C. Hegler, P. D. D. G. M.; M. Walsh, P. G. S. W. I am under deep obligations to the Brethren for the kindness and attention shown me.

After an absence of twenty-six years I visited the home of my boyhood, Ingersoll, on the 16th of June last, upon the invitation of King Hiram and St. John's Lodges of that town. It is needless to recount the loyalty and love shown to me on that occasion. R. W. Bros. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M.; J. C. Hegler, P. D. D. G. M.; M. Walsh, P. G. S. W.; V. W. Bros. John Warnock, Jas.

Boles, Wm. Partlo, John Kerr, and W. A. Woolson, and W. Bro. the Rev. J. C. Farthing, of Woodstock, and Rev. Bro. F. C. O'Meara, late of Winnipeg, were in attendance. An old friend of my boyhood, W. Bro. H. Rowland, presided at the banquet table. The memory of the visit and the reunion of old friends will ever remain with me.

I must not fail to record my gratitude to Ionic Lodge, 25, Toronto, and its talented and energetic Master, W. Bro. Fred. Harcourt, for the opportunity afforded me in joining with them to do honor to Wor. Bro. the Right Hon. Gerald Fitzgibbon, one of the Lord Justices of the Court of Appeal in Ireland, and now our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland. An interesting fact in connection with the reception is that the distinguished visitor is a nephew of the distinguished Mason and soldier, the hero of Beaver Dams, Col. Jas. Fitzgibbon, whose name every school child in Canada is acquainted with, owing to the fact of Laura Secord's memorable tramp to apprise the Colonel of the proximity of the enemy during the war of 1812. Col. Fitzgibbon was Provincial Grand Master of Upper Canada in 1823. He signed the Dispensation and installed the first officers of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, the Mother Lodge of the City of Toronto. His son was the first Secretary of the Lodge which did honor to his cousin. The occasion brought out many of the old members of the Lodge. He endeared himself to the hearts of all. He was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge. It gave me great pleasure to appoint His Lordship as the Representative of our Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

I attended a gathering of seven hundred Masons of Toronto on the 24th of June last, and accompanied them to St. James' Cathedral, where an eloquent and scholarly sermon was preached on the history, principles and duty of the Order, by Bro. the Rev. Professor Wm. Clark, M. A., D. C. L., of Trinity College, Toronto. His Lordship the Bishop of Toronto and several reverend Brethren assisted in the service, while the organ was presided over by Bro. Albert Ham, Mus. Doc., F. R. C. O. The collection was donated to the Sick Children's Hospital. A noticeable feature of the gathering was that no Ma-

sonic regalia was worn, the members wearing instead a small blue ribbon in the lapel of their coats.

I regret exceedingly my inability to attend some Reunions and At Homes to which I was invited, and particularly the visit of the Ottawa Brethren to Ogdensburg, New York, and of Zetland Lodge, Toronto, to Rochester, New York, where they were entertained by Frank R. Lawrence Lodge and its Master, W. Bro. De Herriman; V. W. Bro. J. Hungerford Smith, P. G. S. D., and by that Prince of Masons whom Canadian Masons hold in loving remembrance, M. Wor. Bro. Wm. Sutherland, P. G. M.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

All the world was shocked when the news was flashed that a dastardly attempt had been made on the life of His Royal Highness the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. I immediately caused a message of congratulation to be forwarded to him on his providential escape, to which a reply was received on the 4th of May last conveying to the members of Grand Lodge His Royal Highness' warmest thanks for their kind and fraternal regards. I also caused the congratulations of this Grand Lodge to be forwarded to him on being proclaimed, on the 25th of April last, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England for the twenty-sixth time.

MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Association was held in this city on the 26th of September last. I regretted my inability to attend, but I was ably represented by my Deputy Grand Master, whom I now congratulate on his election as President of so important an international institution. So well is the work of the Association performed that it is next to impossible for an unworthy Mason or an impostor to obtain relief in any of the twenty-one jurisdictions composing its membership. I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue in affiliation with the Association.

In connection with the work of relief, I desire to say that in any city or town where two or more Lodges

exist it is desirable that a local Board of Relief should be performed, towards which every Lodge should contribute. This is a duty no Lodge should evade. The burden of relief should be borne by all, and not be thrown on the contributing Lodges, as in cases which have come under my observation. I trust that there may be no further cause of complaint in this respect.

DECISIONS.

I have given a great number of decisions during the year, the majority of which are governed by the Constitution and the rulings of my predecessors. One or two rulings so given by me are, in my opinion, sufficiently important to report to Grand Lodge.

1. I forbade the initiation of a man who, although possessing considerable worldly wealth, was unable to write or sign his name. I considered that a man so ignorant would be out of place in a Masonic Lodge. The admission of such a man would be a reflection on our Institution.

2. I decided that in the examination of strangers who desire to visit a lodge, that the Tyler's oath should be administered after and not before the examination.

3. I was asked for an opinion on the meaning of the words "improper solicitation," when applied to candidates for admission to the Order. An effort was made to show that "delicate hints" to desirable men should not be classed under the heading of "improper solicitation." Great stress was laid on the word "improper." I decided that solicitation of any kind was improper. I desire Grand Lodge to consider this ruling, so that any misunderstanding that may now exist may be set at rest. Grand Master Griffin, of Wisconsin, severely condemns any resort to solicitation. The Missouri Freemason says there is no necessity for soliciting, nor does it believe that there is any better way to select members than the one which has been in use from time immemorial. It points out the hesitancy to reject a man who has been solicited, although the petitioner is most objectionable to the members of the Lodge. It is bad policy to allow members to urge friends to become Masons. The journal concludes by stating "that to break down the barrier which now prevents solicitation would

be to turn loose an army of members, who have no adequate idea of the real meaning of Masonry, in a wild scramble to gather together large bodies, in the supposition that a Lodge with a great number of members must necessarily be a strong body. I believe I am safe in asserting that all English speaking Grand Lodges in the world condemn the practice of soliciting. There can be no half measures. Solicitation of any kind is improper.

WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.

I regret exceedingly my inability to represent you at the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and to take part in the Anniversary Services at the tomb of the illustrious Washington. The Deputy Grand Master was kind enough to take my place on that occasion. His reception was all that could be desired. The Representatives from all the Jurisdictions showed him every attention and kindness. It would have been an honor to me to have been present and add my quota of praise to the memory of the man whose love of country and patriotism endeared him to the hearts of his countrymen. To the soldier, who, even in his time, commanded the respect and admiration of those who then were termed enemies, but to whom at the close of this nineteenth century can be applied a more affectionate and endearing term. To the Mason and the courtly gentleman who was loved by all and whose memory we all revere, whose life was so pure that even with us of a different nationality his virtues and conduct are continually kept before us as worthy of emulation. I agree with him who, in speaking of Washington and the United States, said: "As this country has grown, and as the importance of his work is more and more appreciated, and, too, as he recedes in distance, Washington's true proportions are appreciated and he looms even more grandly. In order to exalt the wisdom of Washington and to insist upon the importance of his farewell advice to his people, it is not necessary to impute to him supernatural enlightenment, and yet so clear and right was his thinking on duties of government, and so valuable have proved his principles in operation, that he would be a rash counsellor who would call for the utter disregard of any one of these principles."

LOSSES BY FIRE.

We sympathize with our London Brethren in their great loss in the destruction of the Masonic Temple by fire on the 23rd of February last. Nothing was saved from the devouring element. Even the charters of the Lodges were destroyed. Great praise is due to the Craft of this city for the energy and pluck displayed in securing without delay suitable meeting places, and obtaining the necessary furniture and paraphernalia for the work of the Lodges. I directed the Grand Secretary to furnish duplicate charters to take the place of those destroyed. The splendid preparations made for Grand Lodge to-day is more striking when we consider that four months ago blackened walls, charred timbers and a mass of tangled wires was all that remained of the Masonic Temple.

We also sympathize with not only those of our own household, but with our fellow-citizens of the City of Ottawa in this Province, and of the City of Hull, in Quebec Province, in the calamity which befell them in April last. Two fire-swept cities rendered homeless, stripped of personal belongings and left without the common necessities of life, seven human beings were burnt to death, 16,000 rendered homeless, and 3,000 buildings burned, 8,000 hands out of employment, and \$18,000,000 worth of property destroyed. One newspaper stated that while other fires destroyed the houses and savings of a people, this, in addition to rendering thousands as poor and almost as naked as when they came into the world, destroyed the industries which furnished them with the means of gaining a livelihood, and left them largely dependent upon the benefactions of the public. The pressing necessity called for immediate assistance. I considered that this Grand Lodge should respond quickly, and so forwarded a cheque for \$2,000 to the Mayor of Ottawa (whose cordial and eloquent welcome to this Grand Lodge last July is still fresh in our memory), accompanied by the following letter :
T. Payment, Esq., Mayor of Ottawa :

My Dear Mr. Mayor,—On behalf of the Masonic Order in the Province of Ontario, I extend to you and your citizens our heartfelt sympathy in the great loss which you have suffered by the recent fire. I also sym-

pathize with you in the sudden death of one near and dear to you.

The members of the Grand Lodge of Canada have pleasant recollections of the hospitable treatment received by them last July from you and your citizens. We will never forget the pleasant words with which you welcomed us, and the knowledge displayed by you regarding the objects and aims of our Order.

We also sympathize with our countrymen in the sister City of Hull, in the great loss sustained by them. Thousands of our countrymen in both Ottawa and Hull have been rendered homeless and helpless as a result of the conflagration.

On behalf of the Grand Lodge, over which I have the honor to preside, I now enclose you their cheque for \$2,000, which I have endorsed to your order. You will see that it is equally distributed between Ottawa and Hull sufferers. We do not wish any distinction made in the distribution of the money. Place it where it will do the most good.

Again extending to you the sympathies of the Masons of this Province, I remain,

Yours very truly,

E. T. MALONE,

Grand Master.

I ask your endorsement of my action. I also desire to draw your attention to the generous action of the Grand Lodge of New York in forwarding me a cheque for \$2,000 to be applied in aid of the sufferers of both Ottawa and Hull. This action of M. W. Bro. Pownall and his Grand Lodge forms yet another link in Masonry, and in common benevolence binding the two countries together. The Brethren of the Grand Lodge of New York ever do things handsomely. I telegraphed Grand Master Pownall as follows:

"Wright D. Pownall, Grand Master of Masons, New York: Your generous sympathy appreciated not only by the Craft, but by the people of Canada."

I desire Grand Lodge to place on record an expression of their gratitude to our sister Grand Lodge and to M. W. Bros. Wright D. Pownall, G. M.; Wm. A.

Sutherland, P.G. M., and to our worthy Representative, W. Bro. Geo. W. Millener, for the efforts put forth by them on behalf of our suffering countrymen.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

The closing years of the nineteenth century teem with events of great importance to the nations of the earth. At the present time the Allied Powers are engaged in protecting the lives and property of their respective citizens in China, where barbarous deeds have been committed which have roused the whole civilized world. The Motherland is foremost in this work, and can be depended upon to exercise that influence which will establish law and order, and obtain for her subjects the safety of life and freedom to carry on the work of the Master, unmolested and unhampered by the ignorant, murderous fanatics of the East.

To us in Canada the events of the year are of striking importance. Never before has the Empire realized its strength and unity. The war in South Africa is the culmination of the struggle of the Boers against right, justice and truth. The foreigners who were invited by President Kruger to invest their capital in the Transvaal were deprived of all the liberties of citizenship; no school privileges were accorded to their children; they were commanded to fight against the natives; even court justice was a hollow mockery; the Protectorate of Great Britain was even denied; petition after petition was made, but without redress, and the burden of taxation was increased. All that was demanded was equal rights and a pacific settlement of all questions. The only reply made by President Kruger was the issue of his stupid ultimatum; and his subsequent declaration of war and occupation of British possessions. The time had come for the whelps of the lion to rally to her side. An object lesson was given to all men and all nations, that no matter where the attack may come from, the Empire is solidified. "Blow for blow will be struck back by the British, and that blow will come as freely from Canada and Australia as from the heart of the Empire." Canadians are loyal to their flag, and their patriotism shows at its brightest when their country requires their assistance. When the summons came for volunteers,

three thousand lads stepped forward for service. The answer sent to the Motherland was very much in the same language as was addressed by Jehosophat to the King of Israel: "I am as thou art, and my people as thy people, and we will be with thee in the war." The spirit of the Canadian people is voiced by the telegram sent by John A. Barry, of Montreal, begging to be allowed to fill the gap in the regiment caused by the death of his brother in one of the battles. Our boys have done their duty nobly and faithfully. They have placed Canada in the rank of nations. Where the battle was fiercest, where great danger lay, where difficulties had to be overcome, where only brave and trusty men were required, there Canadians were to be found, staunch, true and reliable. They have proved themselves the equals of the best soldiers of the Empire, and have deservedly earned the high encomiums passed on their prowess by that great General and Freemason, Britain's "Little Bobs." Now that the end of the war is in sight, and the old Union Jack flies from the Capitals of both the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, it will be found that there will be no vindictive feeling towards those in arms against us, but that country shall never again become a nursery of conspiracy against British rule. The rights of the Dutch will not be taken away; equal rights will be meted out to all, irrespective of creed, color or nationality, and in the end a great Confederation under a British Protectorate will arise, in which the rights, the privileges, the traditions of all sections of the population will be respected, in which there will be justice, freedom and absolute equality before the law.

When the first contingent left our shore, a National Patriotic Fund was organized for the benefit of the widows, orphans and dependents of those of our Contingent who might, unfortunately, lose their lives in the struggle for the benefit of such of our men who might become disabled by wounds or sickness, and for the benefit of the wives, children and dependents separated by the campaign from husbands, fathers and guardians. The Grand Lodge of Canada was the first to respond, and on your behalf I forwarded a cheque for \$1,000, with a promise to supplement the same if required. I desire your approval of such action, and have no doubt

what your decision will be. As I have stated, volunteers were called for, and only those accepted who had not families dependent upon them for support. It is needless to say that hundreds of members of our Craft offered their services, but only those who came under the class I have mentioned were accepted. I am of the opinion that a Committee should be appointed by this Grand Lodge to collect the names of those of our Brethren from Ontario who accompanied any of the contingents, and the same should be inscribed in our proceedings as a tribute to their loyalty and bravery. I have endeavored to obtain such names to present to you to-day, but have only been partially successful. I desire that a resolution be passed recognizing the protecting hand of the Almighty in the preservation of those of our soldiers who are alive, and sympathizing with the relatives of those who fell in the conflict.

The following the the names of the Brethren I succeeded in obtaining:

ERIE DISTRICT, NO. 2.

Sergeant Fred Gorman, Sarnia, B Co., R. C. R. I.
 Lieutenant R. Bowden.
 Sergeant George R. Sippi, London, first contingent.
 Sergeant F. H. Price.
 Private Walter Wright, London.
 Private Alfred Charman.

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

Private D. H. Tolfrey, second contingent.
 Private D. H. T. Christie, C Co., R. C. R. I.

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

Private George Campbell, first contingent, Innerkip.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7.

Sergeant Maitland Ernest Stewart, Mounted Rifles, Orangeville.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8.

Lieutenant E. W. Morrison and Privates Thomas Lloyd Edmunson and Malcolm L. Isbister, all of Hamilton.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

William C. Laidlaw, M. D., Orillia.

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 11.

Sergt. John McCulla, Brampton, second contingent.

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, NO. 11a.

Vet. Sergt. Alexander Gillies, Strathcona Horse.

Sergt.-Major David Borland, R. C. Regiment.

Lieut. John F. Ramsay, 1st Brabant Horse.

Private George R. Sweeney, Canadian Mounted Infantry.

Lieut.-Col. Wm. D. Otter, Commanding 2nd Battalion, R. C. R. I.

Major Charles James McDougall, R. C. R. I., 2nd Battalion.

Captain Rykert Kent Barker, C Co., 2nd Battalion, R. C. R. I.

Lieut.-Col. George S. Ryerson, Army Medical Service.

Lieut. Lewis Erskine W. Irving, R. C. Artillery.

Capt. Alex. Boyd, R. C. R. I.

Private Christopher H. Irving, R. C. Artillery.

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

Lieut.-Col. Sam. Hughes.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Private R. Robinson, Mounted Rifles.

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14.

Surgeon-Major H. Hamsay Duff, Mounted Infantry.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

Private T. E. Macdonald.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

Private Henry C. Small, Carleton Place.

Gunner Wm. M. Lambkiss.

Gunner Levi E. Beavers, Ottawa.

Major W. G. Hurdman.

Capt. Agaw S. A. M. Adamson.

Capt. Chas. F. Winters.

Trooper George Sparks.

Capt. S. Maynard Rogers.

Private A. P. McCuaig.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

Private Walter Edwards.

Such are the names of some of our heroes who demonstrated that Canada is ready at all times "to abide by her Mother's side," and that when England calls, the

flag of the Maple Leaf will be ever in the van. Our message is:

" Show the way, England!
 Let that grim Master
 Of earth's dread disaster—
 Let the war shadow
 But darken your sun.
 Trust your child, Canada;
 She will be with you,
 Shoulder to shoulder,
 Gun to your gun.
 She will reply with you,
 Fight for you,
 Die with you.
 So, wide to the world
 Be the old flag unfurled.
 Show the way, England! "

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A communication was received from M. W. Bro. R. Eden Walker, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, complaining of invasion of Jurisdiction by St. George's Lodge, No. 367, in initiating a Mr. Phillips, a resident of Rossland, B.C., while on a visit to Toronto. I investigated the matter and decided against St. George's Lodge. The papers are now with the Grand Secretary. I have every hope of making a settlement satisfactory to our British Columbia Brethren.

" HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CANADA."

I note with pleasure the great interest evinced by the Craft in M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson's grand work bearing the above caption. We all regret his absence from this meeting of Grand Lodge, being the first time in twenty years he has not taken part in our deliberations. As a mark of appreciation of his valuable services to Craft Literature, I recommend that Grand Lodge appoint him its Historian.

CONCLUSION.

I cannot conclude without referring to the pleasant relations which have at all times existed between me and every member of the Craft in this Jurisdiction. To the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and the various District Deputies who served under me for the

last two years, I am indebted for assistance rendered, and prompt and careful attention to all matters of business.

From the date of my entrance as a delegate to Grand Lodge, 19 years ago, up to the present time, I have been honored and favored by my Brethren. You have conferred upon me a rank of great importance. You entrusted me with great power. I trust that I have fully appreciated the responsibilities of the position. I cannot expect to have pleased all in the administration of the affairs of office, but I can conscientiously say that my aim has been to discharge my duties without fear or favor, having only in view the best interest of the Craft. If I have been the means of awakening any Brother to a sense of his duty, if I have been successful in advancing or improving any Brother's welfare, I am content. To-morrow afternoon I will step back into the ranks again, but will hand over to my successor a prosperous jurisdiction, one that stands high in the respect and esteem of all the Grand Lodges of the civilized world, one whose members are actively engaged in teaching and practicing the doctrine of "The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man." I can assure him of the loyal support of every Mason on the roll. I trust I leave behind me none but friends and well-wishers. I trust to be able to serve you for the remainder of my life in some capacity, no matter how lowly the position may be. I desire to continue active in the good work of the Craft. My best wishes will be always for your welfare. There is work for us all—none so low or insignificant that cannot find work at his hands, which, when conscientiously done, will add lustre and credit to the institution. Accept the work that is at hand, and do not lose time and opportunity by waiting until work of greater magnitude presents itself. Your place in the institution is just where Providence has placed you:

" Just where you stand in the conflict,
There is your place!
Just where you think you are useless,
Hide not your face.
God placed you there for a purpose,
Whate'er it be!

Think he has chosen you for it,
Work loyally;
Gird on your armor! Be faithful!
At toil or rest,
Whichever it be; never doubting
God's way is best.
Out in the fight or on picket,
Stand firm and true;
This is the work that your Master
Gives you to do."

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. William Gibson, and

Resolved, That the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Annual Communication at London, 18th July, 1900.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario:

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—

I beg to present to Grand Lodge my Annual Report containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year and the expenditure made, with returns of subordinate lodges as at 24th June, 1900, and ledger balances, at the 31st May, 1900, together with, by instruction of the M. W. the Grand Master, a record of the Especial Communications summoned, dispensations issued, by-laws and amendments thereto approved, Grand Representatives appointed, and other official acts of the M. W. the Grand Master.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts and expenditure from the 1st June, 1899, to the 31st May, 1900, have been as follows:

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

RECEIPTS.

Certificates.....	\$3,240 00
Dues.....	12,380 75
Fees.....	1,997 25
Dispensations.....	218 00
Warrants.....	20 00
Constitutions and Ceremonies.....	502 00
Commutations of dues.....	390 00
Past Master's Certi- ficates.....	6 00
Asylum Fund Inter- est.....	435 00
General Fund Inter- est.....	3,200 77
Miscellaneous.....	24 00

EXPENDITURE.

Salary of Grand Sec- retary.....	\$2,000 00
Salary of Grand Sec- retary's Assistant.....	800 00
Salary of Grand Treas- urer to 30th June, 1900.....	350 00
Salary of Stenogra- pher.....	300 00
Rent of Grand Sec- retary's Office....	175 00
M. W. Bro. E. T. Ma- lone, balance of travelling expenses '99.....	250 00
Masonic Relief Asso- ciation, U. S. and Canada.....	119 00
Grand Sec'y. balance of incidentals to 31st May, '99.....	118 92
Grand Secretary, ad- vance for inciden- tals.....	500 00
R. Duncan & Co., books, etc.....	55 85
The Spectator Print- ing Co., on account of printing.....	1,434 08
The Howell Litho- graph Co., check books.....	32 00
J. Eastwood & Co., stationery.....	76 06
Expenses of Board of General Purposes.....	1,083 20
Expenses, meeting of Grand Lodge at Ottawa.....	166 00
Expenses, benevo- lence investigation	506 00
Hunter, Rose Co., J. Ross Robertson, History of Masonry	37 50
Committee on For- eign Correspond- ence.....	100 00
Copp, Clark Co., on account of printing	424 25
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond..	50 00

Carried forward....\$22,413 77

Carried Forward...\$ 8,577 86

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<i>Brought Forward..</i> \$22,413 77	<i>Brought Forward...</i> \$ 8,577 86
	J. E. Harding, postage re benevolence 15 00
	Expenses re investigation Lodge 222 vs. Bro. Clark.... 37 85
	Central Press Agency, portraits of P. G. M's 64 90
	Ambrose, Kent Co., repairs to Grand Lodge regalia.... 5 25
	M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on account of travelling expenses 250 00
	R. W. Bro. Hungerford, expenses to Washington 44 50
	Presentat'n to Grand Lodge of Michigan 66 25
	Insurance on Grand Lodge regalia 17 50
	Orders on the Fund of Benevolence ... 13,150 00
Total \$22,413 77	Total \$22,229 11

ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

By direction of the M. W., the Grand Master, Especial Communications of Grand Lodge were held as follows :

On the 18th August, 1899, at Tilsonburg, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of St. John's Church (Anglican), M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 15th June, 1900, at Welland, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Central School building, M. W. Malone, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 2nd July, 1900, at Owen Sound, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of St. Thomas Church (Anglican), Brook, R. W. Bro. James McLauchlan, P. G. S. W., officiating.

DEDICATIONS.

By instruction of the M. W., the Grand Master, the halls of the following Lodges have been dedicated for Craft purposes since the last Annual Communication

Granite Lodge, No. 446, Fort Frances, 30th September,

1899, by R. W. Bro. W. S. Beaver, D. D. G. M. ; Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford, 27th October, 1899, by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master ; St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16 ; King Solomon Lodge, No. 22 ; Ionic Lodge, No. 25 ; Rehoboam Lodge No. 65 ; St. John's Lodge, No. 75 ; Wilson Lodge, No. 86 ; Stevenson Lodge, No. 218 ; Doric Lodge, No. 316 ; Zetland Lodge, No. 326, and Harmony Lodge, No. 438, Toronto, 25th April, 1900, by M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master.

DISPENSATION FOR NEW LODGE.

By direction of the M. W., the Grand Master, a dispensation was issued to Sturgeon Falls Lodge, Sturgeon Falls, Nipissing District, No. 18, on the 13th January, 1900.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W., the Grand Masters, of the respective Grand Lodges, the M. W. Grand Master has made the following appointments, namely :

W. Bro. the Right Honorable Mr. Justice Fitzgibbons, of Dublin, as our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in place of W. Bro. Humphrey Minchin, M. B., deceased.

M. W. Bro. Isaac H. Stearns, of Montreal, as our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in place of M. W. Bro. John H. Graham, deceased.

M. W. Bro. Yancey C. Blalock, of Walla Walla, as our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Washington, in place of M. W. Bro. James E. Edmiston, deceased.

W. Bro. Eduardo Lavergue, as our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Peru in place of W. Bro. Gustavo Lama, not now a member of that Grand Lodge.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W., the Grand Master, the following appointments have been made, namely :

M. W. Bro. William Gibson, of Beamsville, as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in place of R. W. Bro. Robert McKay, deceased.

R. W. Bro. James Sutherland, of Woodstock, as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Victoria in place of R. W. Bro. William Gibson, resigned.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, of London, as Repre-

sentative of the Grand Lodge of Michigan for a further period of three years from the 1st January, 1900.

LODGE BY-LAWS.

The M. W., the Grand Master, has examined, revised and confirmed the By-laws of the following Lodges :

1899.	Aug. 24th...	Westport Lodge,	No. 441, Westport.
"	Oct. 12th....	Orient Lodge,	" 339, Toronto.
"	Oct. 20th....	Stanley Lodge,	" 426, W. Toronto Jct.
"	Nov. 17th....	Granite Lodge,	" 446, Fort Frances.
"	Nov. 17th....	Prince Arthur Lodge,	" 334, Arthur.
"	Dec. 6th....	The Occident Lodge,	" 346, Toronto.
"	Dec. 18th....	The Rising Sun Lodge,	" 129, Aurora.
1900.	Jan. 30th....	Markham Union Lodge	" 87, Markham.
"	March 13th....	Nickel Lodge,	" 427, Sudbury.
"	May 28th....	Wilson Lodge,	" 113, Waterford.
"	July 6th....	Galt Lodge,	" 257, Galt.

The M. W., the Grand Master, has examined, revised and confirmed amendments to the By-laws of the following Lodges :

1899.	Oct. 6th....	Amity Lodge,	No. 32, Dunnville.
"	Oct. 9th....	Harriston Lodge,	" 262, Harriston.
"	Oct. 30th....	Vittoria Lodge,	" 359, Vittoria.
"	Nov. 1st....	Sussex Lodge,	" 5, Brockville.
"	Nov. 1st....	Prince of Wales Lodge,	" 371, Ottawa.
"	Nov. 6th....	Lodge of Fidelity,	" 231, Ottawa.
"	Nov. 22nd....	Maple Leaf Lodge,	" 362, Tara.
"	Nov. 28th....	Doric Lodge,	" 121, Brantford.
"	Nov. 28th....	Seymour Lodge,	" 272, Ancaster.
"	Nov. 28th....	Hanover Lodge,	" 432, Hanover.
"	Dec. 16th....	Central Lodge,	" 402, Essex.
"	Dec. 20th....	Minden Lodge,	" 253, Kingston.
"	Dec. 20th....	The Barton Lodge,	" 6, Hamilton.
1900.	Jan. 5th....	Salem Lodge,	" 368, Brockville.
"	Feb. 26th....	Zeta Lodge,	" 410, Toronto.
"	March 26th....	Malahide Lodge,	" 140, Aylmer.
"	May 15th....	Harmony Lodge,	" 438, Toronto.
"	May 16th....	Wellington Lodge,	" 271, Erin.
"	May 28th....	Corinthian Lodge,	" 101, Peterboro.
"	June 6th....	St. George's Lodge,	" 88, Owen Sound.
"	June 6th....	Caledonian Lodge,	" 249, Midland.
"	June 11th....	King Solomon's Lodge,	" 378, London West.
"	June 13th....	Fort William Lodge,	" 415, Fort William.
"	June 25th....	Erie Lodge,	" 149, Port Dover.
"	June 28th....	Farran's Point Lodge,	" 256, Farran's Point.

DISPENSATIONS.

By instruction from the M. W., the Grand Master, I have issued the following dispensations, viz. :

DATE.	No.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
June 23, 1899..	285	Seven Star.....	Alliston.....	To Attend Divine Service.
" " " "	285	Seven Star.....	Alliston.....	" Install.
" 30, " "	81	St. John's.....	Mount Brydges.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" " " "	262	Harriston.....	Harriston.....	" Attend Divine Service.
July 13, " "	370	Harmony.....	Delhi.....	" Install.
" 15, " "	2	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	" Install.
Aug. 4, " "	196	Madawaska.....	Arnprior.....	" Attend Divine Service.
Sept. 2, " "	260	Washington.....	Petrolia.....	" Confer 2nd and 3rd ^o on same day.
" 25, " "	247	Ashlar.....	Toronto.....	" Meet in another Hall for Sept.
Oct 21, " "	25	Ionic.....	Toronto.....	" Raise within 20 days.
Nov. 1, " "	10	Norfolk.....	Simcoe.....	" Confer (out of jurisdiction).
" 4, " "	339	Orient.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 20, " "	367	St. George's.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 21, " "	177	The Builder's.....	Ottawa.....	" Banquet.
" 27, " "	195	The Tuscan.....	London.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 30, " "	7	Union.....	Grimsby.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 14, " "	406	The Spy.....	Fenelon Falls.....	" Pass within prescribed time.
Dec. 6, " "	361	Waverly.....	Guelph.....	" Change Meeting.
" 7, " "	438	Harmony.....	Toronto.....	" Change Meeting.
" 14, " "	166	Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek.....	" Install.
" 14, " "	62	St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia.....	" Install.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	No.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Dec. 19, 1899.	352	Granite.....	Parry Sound.....	To Install.
" 20, "	374	Keene.....	Keene.....	" Install.
" 20, "	74	St. James.....	Maidland.....	" Install.
" 21, "	186	Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet.....	" Elect.
" 21, "	144	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 27, "	145	J. B. Hall.....	Millbrook.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 29, "	403	Windsor.....	Windsor.....	" Install.
" 29, "	433	Bonnechere.....	Eganville.....	" Install.
" 29, "	439	Alexandria.....	Alexandria.....	" Install.
Jan. 2, 1900.	384	Georgian.....	Penetang.....	" Install.
" 2, "	359	Vittoria.....	Vittoria.....	" Install.
" 4, "	224	Zarich.....	Hensall.....	" Install.
" 5, "	223	Norwood.....	Norwood.....	" Install.
" 8, "	346	Occident.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home
" 8, "	345	Nilestown.....	Nilestown.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 11, "	358	Delaware Valley.....	Delaware.....	" Install.
" 13, "	289	Doric.....	Lobo.....	" Install.
" 23, "	116	Cassia.....	Stouffville.....	" Install.
" 24, "	136	Richmond.....	Stouffville.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 27, "	325	Orono.....	Orono.....	" Install.
" 27, "	16	St. Andrew's.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 29, "	396	Cedar.....	Wiaraton.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 13, "	U. D.	Sturgeon Falls.....	Sturgeon Falls.....	" Work

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	No.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
Feb. 8, 1920...	343	Georgina.....	Toronto.....	To Attend an At Home.
" 8, " "	86	Wilson.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 12, " "	30	Composite.....	Whitby.....	" Attend at all hours.
" 13, " "	65	Roboboam.....	Toronto.....	" Meet one hour earlier.
" 14, " "	231	Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 15, " "	110	Central.....	Prescott.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 17, " "	290	Leamington.....	Leamington.....	" Install.
" 17, " "	247	Ashlar.....	Toronto.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 17, " "	421	Scott.....	Grand Valley.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 19, " "	394	King Solomon.....	Thamesford.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 19, " "	190	Belmont.....	Belmont.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 20, " "	438	Harmony.....	Toronto.....	" Meet at 4.30 p. m.
Mar. 28, " "	330	Corinthian.....	London.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 31, " "	347	Mercer.....	Fergus.....	" Elect and Install.
Apl. 19, " "	61	Acacia.....	Hamilton.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 26, " "	121	Doric.....	Brantford.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 26, " "	45	Brant.....	Brantford.....	" Attend Divine Service.
May 17, " "	122	Renfrew.....	Renfrew.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 19, " "	295	Conestogo.....	Drayton.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 31, " "	230	Kerr.....	Barrie.....	" Install.
" 31, " "	6	Barton.....	Hamilton.....	" Open at 9 a. m.
June 7, " "	343	Georgina.....	Toronto.....	" Install.
" 9, " "	62	St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia.....	" Attend Divine Service.

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	No.	NAME OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	FOR WHAT GRANTED.
June 11, 1900..	174	Walsingham...	Port Rowan	To Attend Divine Service.
" 12, " ..	332	Stratford.....	Stratford.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 15, " ..	267	Parthenon.....	Chatham.....	" Elect.
" 15, " ..	129	The Rising Sun...	Aurora.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 18, " ..	322	North Star.....	Owen Sound.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 18, " ..	107	St. Paul's.....	Lambeth.....	" Install.
" 18, " ..	258	Guelph	Guelph.....	" Install.
" 18, " ..	88	St. George's.....	Owen Sound.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 21, " ..	216	Harris.....	Orangeville.....	" Attend an At Home.
" 21, " ..	143	Friendly Bros.....	Iroquois.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 22, " ..	135	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 23, " ..	2	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	" Attend Divine Service.
" 26, " ..	370	Harmony.....	Delta.....	" Install.

Fraternally submitted.



Grand Secretary.

HAMILTON, 12th July, 1900.

**Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M., of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario.**

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

Annual Communication at London, 18th July, 1900.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members
of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M., of Canada, in the
Province of Ontario:*

I herewith submit a statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the Grand Lodge for the year ending 31st May, 1900.

The balance at the credit of the Current Account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce on the 1st June, 1899, was.....	\$11,302 22
During the year I have received from the Grand Secretary for General Fund.....	\$21,978 77
For Asylum Fund	435 00
	22,413 77

The expenditure for General Purposes during the year was.....	\$ 9,079 11
For Benevolence	13,150 00
	22,229 11

Balance in Bank on 2nd June, 1900\$11,486 88

In the expenditure for Benevolence is included the sums of \$2,000 grant to the Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief, and \$1,000 to the National Patriotic Fund.

The following debentures having matured, have been paid, or renewed:

The Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co.....	\$10,000 00
The Canadian Savings and Loan Co	5,000 00
The Landed Banking and Loan Co	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan and Debenture Co	5,000 00
The British Canadian Loan and Investment Co.....	15,000 00
The Huron and Erie Loan Co	15,000 00
	\$55,000 00

and were renewed, or invested as follows:

The Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co. @ 4%..	\$10,000 00
The Canadian Savings and Loan Co..... " 4%..	5,000 00
The Landed Banking and Loan Co..... " 4%..	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan and Debenture Co..... " 4%..	5,000 00
The Canada Central Loan and Savings Co., " 4%..	15,000 00
The Landed Banking and Loan Co..... " 4%..	15,000 00

\$55,000 00

The attached Balance Sheet shows the amount at the credit of the General Fund and the Asylum Fund, respectively, on the 31st May, 1900, and the sums invested, with the rates of interest.

All the debentures are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping.

STATEMENT—GENERAL FUND.

*The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Mason of Canada
in the Province of Ontario, in account with HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.*

1899.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
June	30—	Paid Grand Treasurer, salary to 31st Dec. 1898.....	50 00
"	30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to 30th March, 1899.....	50 00
"	30—	" Grand Master, balance of travelling expenses, 1899.....	250 00
"	30—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	500 00
"	30—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date.....	200 00
"	30—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date.....	50 00
"	30—	" Stenographer, salary to date.....	75 00
July	31—	" Gen. Masonic Relief Asso. Annual Sub. Grand Secretary, bal. of incidentals to 31st May, 1899.....	119 00
"	31—	" Grand Secretary, on acct. of incidentals.....	118 92
"	31—	" Robert Duncan & Co., books, etc.....	500 00
"	31—	" The Spectator Printing Co., printing..	55 85
"	31—	" The Howell Lithograph Co., books of Cheques.....	434 08
"	31—	" J. Eastwood & Co., stationery.....	32 00
"	31—	" Expenses, Board of General Purposes..	76 06
"	31—	" J. B. Nixon, Expenses at Board of General Purposes.....	1,000 00
"	31—	" J. B. Nixon, expenses re Benevolent Investigation.....	39 10
Aug.	31—	" Hunter, Rose & Co., J. Ross Robertson, History of Masonry :	200 00
"	31—	" Henry Robertson, for Foreign correspondence report.....	37 50
"	31—	" The Copp, Clark Co., for certificates..	100 00
Sept.	30—	" J. B. Nixon, expenses re Benevolent Investigation.....	424 25
"	30—	" Premium of Grand Sec'y's Guarantee Bond.....	100 00
"	30—	" Bal. of Expenses B'd of Gen. Purposes	50 00
Oct.	31—	" J. E. Harding, postage re Benevolence	14 10
"	31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	15 00
"	31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date	500 00
"	31—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date	200 00
"	31—	" Stenographer, salary to date.....	50 00
			75 00

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Oct. 31—	Paid J. B. Nixon, investigation re Benevolent Grants.....	150 00
" 31—	" Expenses, meeting of Grand Lodge at Ottawa.....	166 00
" 31—	" J. A. Hoshal, expenses attending B'd of General Purposes.....	30 00
Nov. 30—	" J. B. Nixon, balance investigation re Benevolent Grants.....	56 00
" 30—	" Expenses re investigation, Lodge 222 vs. Bro. Donald Clark.....	37 85
" 30—	" Central Press Agency, Portraits for Grand Lodge Proceedings.....	64 90
Dec. 31—	" Ambrose, Kent & Son, repairs to Grand Lodge regalia.....	5 25
" 31—	" Grand Master on acct travelling exp..	250 00
" 31—	" Spectator Printing Co., on acct. Ptg..	1,000 00
" 31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	500 00
" 31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec., salary to date	200 00
" 31—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date.....	50 00
" 31—	" Stenographer, salary to date.....	75 00
1900		
Jan. 31—	" R. B. Hungerford, exp's to Washington	44 50
Feb. 28—	" Presentation, Cup to Grand Lodge of Michigan.....	66 25
Mar. 31—	" Grand Secretary, salary to date.....	500 00
" 31—	" Assistant to Grand Sec., salary to date	200 00
" 31—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to date.....	50 00
" 31—	" Stenographer, salary to date.....	75 00
Apl. 30—	" Manchester Insurance Co., Insurance on Regalia.....	17 50
" 30—	" Hamilton Masonic Hall Asso., Rent to 31st May, 1900	175 00
June 2—	" Grand Treasurer, salary to 30th June.	50 00
" 2—	" Benevolent orders as per list ..	13,150 00
	Balance as per balance sheet.....	80,405 13

\$102,634 24

1899.

RECEIPTS.

June 1—	Balance as per Balance Sheet	\$80,655 47
July 15—	By Grand Secretary.....	4,000 00
Nov. 30—	By " "	112 88
1900.		
Jan. 31—	By " "	6,000 00
May 2—	By " "	6,500 00
May 30—	By " "	42 89
May 31—	By " "	3,800 00
June 2—	By " "	1,523 00

\$102,634 24

STATEMENT—ASYLUM FUND.

1899.	May 31—	Balance as per Balance Sheet.....	\$15,646 75
"	" 31—	By Grand Secretary, prop'n of int....	435 00

\$16,081 75

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario.

Balance Sheet, May 31st, 1900.

Debentures—

Brockville Debentures, face value.....	@ 4%..	\$ 3,000 00
Woodstock " " "	" 6%..	7,000 00
Canada Central Loan and Savings Co.....	" 4%..	15,000 00
Western Canada Loan and Savings Co.....	" 4%..	10,000 00
Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co....	" 4%..	10,000 00
Landed Banking and Loan Co.....	" 4 1/2%..	10,000 00
Landed Banking and Loan Co.....	" 4%..	5,000 00
Canada Savings and Loan Co.....	" 4%..	5,000 00
Ontario Loan and Debenture Co	" 4%..	5,000 00
Hamilton Provident and Loan Society.....	" 4%..	15,000 00
		<hr/>
		\$85,000 00
Current account—		
Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....		11,486 88
		<hr/>
		\$96,486 88
General Fund.		\$80,405 13
Asylum Fund		16,081 75
		<hr/>
		\$96,486 88

We hereby certify that the debentures named and set forth in the Balance Sheet are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping, and that the above mentioned balance, \$11,486.88, was at the credit of the current account of the Grand Lodge at the close of business on the 2nd day of June, 1900.

J. L. HUBBELL, *Pro-Manager.*W. L. GIBSON, *Pro-Accountant.*

All of which is fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Grand Treasurer.

PAYMENTS BY THE GRAND TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF BENEVOLENCE.

June 1899.	Aug.
30 Mrs. Matt G. Vander- wort..... \$10 00	31 Mrs. Wm. McBurney. 20 00
30 Mrs. Samuel Latimer. 20 00	31 " Thos. McC. Law- rence..... 10 00
30 " John Munroe... 10 00	31 " Andrew Kellock 25 00
July	31 " W. T. Southcott. 15 00
31 Miss Mary W. Harris. 18 75	31 Orphs. of J. Jenkins. 10 00
31 Miss Mary Wilson... 75 00	31 Bro. John Findlay... 25 00
31 Mrs. W. M. Wilson... 37 50	31 Mrs. M. C. Brown... 10 00
31 " Wm. Sharpe.... 10 00	31 Wife of S. M. Davies. 20 00
Aug.	31 Mrs. Alf. Goldsmith.. 10 00
31 Mrs. D. G. Huff..... 20 00	31 " G. B. Gray..... 10 00
31 Bro. T. H. Butler.... 50 00	31 " Wm. Whittars.. 10 00
31 Bro. F. P. Gassion.. 50 00	31 Bro. Jos. Blackburn. 50 00
31 Bro. Wm. Campbell.. 50 00	31 Mrs. W. B. Wallace.. 10 00
31 Bro. John Chaceley.. 25 00	31 Bro. R. C. Wright... 25 00
31 Mrs. W. J. Smythe... 10 00	31 Bro. C. Scarborough. 25 00
31 " Horatio Canning 10 00	31 Dau. of Wm. Kerr... 10 00
31 " John Mills 10 00	31 Wid. & Orphs. J. W. McDonald 20 00
31 " Thomas Frazer.. 20 00	31 Mrs. Alex. J. Short.. 20 00
31 " W. S. Pickhaver. 20 00	31 " N. H. Smith ... 20 00
31 " Henry Allen.... 10 00	31 " A. S. McIntyre. 10 00
31 " John Manning.. 20 00	31 " S. Stevenson... 10 00
31 " G. W. Shields... 15 00	31 " J. R. L. Smith.. 15 00
31 " I. Parker 15 00	31 " J. G. Jorgenson. 10 00
31 " Wm Corner.... 20 00	31 Bro. Walter Hann... 50 00
31 Bro. F. Devereux.... 25 00	31 " R. Carey..... 15 00
31 Mrs. A. R. Paul..... 20 00	31 Mrs. Geo. Hampton.. 10 00
31 " William Jolly .. 20 00	31 " Peter Grant 20 00
31 " J. B. Cummings. 40 00	31 " John Evans 15 00
31 Bro. J. L. Dizon 25 00	31 " John Forrest... 20 00
31 Bro. John A. Scott .. 25 00	31 Bro. Alex. Haid..... 25 00
31 Mrs. E. Kester 10 00	31 Mrs. A. Jeffery ... 15 00
31 " Richard Flood.. 20 00	31 Mrs. T. D. Harring- ton 40 00
31 " John Hodgson... 20 00	31 " Geo. Christie... 15 00
31 " Robert White... 10 00	31 Bro. J. C. Williams.. 25 00
31 " W. M. Hunter... 40 00	31 Bro. Andrew McLim. 25 00
31 " S. P. Ponton ... 15 00	31 Bro. C. W. Brown ... 25 00
31 " Peter Patterson. 10 00	31 Mrs. Wm Perry.... 20 00
31 Wife of R. Hazzard . 25 00	31 Bro L. W. Whitney . 50 00
31 Bro. John Jack... 25 00	31 Mrs. M. H. Powell ... 10 00
31 Mrs. David Small.... 20 00	31 Mrs. S. Bispham..... 10 00
31 " J. S. Baker 10 00	31 Bro. W. T. Duff..... 50 00
31 " Jos. McGibbery. 10 00	31 Bro. F. Mudge..... 25 00
31 " Henry Hall..... 10 00	31 Mrs. R. A. Kirby 10 00
31 " Thomas Vesey... 20 00	31 Mrs. H. A. Ethering- ton 40 00
31 " Richard Phillips 15 00	31 Orph. of T. Lockerty. 20 00
31 " John Jackson .. 20 00	31 Mrs. T. S. Agar 40 00
31 " L. York 20 00	
31 " Henry Hamitt.. 20 00	
31 " A. Graham..... 15 00	

Aug.	1899	Aug.	1699
31	Bro. Jas. W. Crate... 25 00	31	Bro. Henry Newton... 50 00
30	Mrs. Edwd. Waeell... 15 00	31	Mrs. M. F. Haney... 15 00
30	Bro. P. Meyers 25 00	31	Orphs. of J. A. Blott. 10 00
30	Mrs. William Ross... 15 00	31	Mrs. Jas. Filton..... 10 00
30	" William Mills.. 10 00	31	" J. T. Gurnett... 20 00
30	" J. T. Jones 40 00	31	" John Weir..... 10 00
30	Bro. James Richmond 25 00	31	Dau. of R. H. Bonny-
30	Mrs. John Hicks 20 00	castle 20 00	
30	" J. A. McInnes... 10 00	31	Bro. Jas. Bowman... 25 00
30	" W. Widgery.... 20 00	31	Orphs. of R. J. Mc-
30	" Alex. Miller.. 10 00	Auslan..... 10 00	
30	" John Munroe... 10 00	31	Mrs. Geo. Gostie.... 5 00
30	Bro. A. Couper..... 25 00	31	" J. E. Edwards... 10 00
30	Mrs. J. Woodrow... 10 00	31	" D. L. Comins... 10 00
30	" James C. Bogart 10 00	31	" T. Richardson... 10 00
30	" W. J. Arniel... 20 00	31	" Thos. G. Shaw... 10 00
30	" W. A. Fowler... 20 00	31	" Peter R. Davy... 15 00
30	" John G. Angell. 15 00	31	" W. R. Ramsay... 20 00
30	" John Kennedy.. 10 00	31	" W. Holmwood... 20 00
30	Bro. H. A. Wetherell. 50 00	31	" C. E. S. Black... 10 00
30	Mrs. Wm. Leaney.... 15 00	31	" Arthur Lloyd... 20 00
30	" Jacob Le Clear.. 10 00	31	" Robt. C. Carter.. 15 00
30	" James Hortop... 10 00	31	" John Wright 10 00
30	" Chas. Graham... 15 00	31	" Thos. Brook.... 10 00
30	" McKee Conklin. 25 00	31	" S. H. Blondheim 10 00
30	" R. T. Smith.... 25 00	31	" A. L. Rundle... 15 00
30	" Levi Neil 10 00	September.	
30	" Adam Petrie... 10 00	30	Mrs. Robert Young .. 10 00
30	" J. C. Hollister.. 10 00	30	" David Wilcox... 10 00
30	" David Ross..... 10 00	30	" Robt. A. Page... 20 00
30	" Edment Hill... 20 00	30	" G. L. Eddeston. 10 00
30	" John Vaux..... 15 00	30	" Rich'd Radcliffe. 15 00
30	" Jos. Metherell.. 10 00	30	" T. T. Johnstone. 20 00
31	" F. Elkington.... 20 00	30	" Wm. Scarcliffe.. 10 00
31	" James Wade ... 25 00	30	" Wm. Johnston... 15 00
31	" L. G. Jolliffe ... 10 00	30	" Robt. Gibson ... 10 00
31	" Wm. Marriott.. 10 00	30	" G. H. Baillie ... 15 00
31	" John Abbott ... 20 00	30	" T. W. Harrison. 10 00
31	" Jos. Middleton.. 10 00	30	" A. Wodehouse... 15 00
31	" John Williams.. 10 00	30	" James Baylie... 10 00
31	Bro. Jas. C. Wilson.. 25 00	30	" Thos. Elliot 10 00
31	Mrs. John Tremear... 10 00	30	" John Mander... 20 00
31	" G. L. Macfarlane 20 00	30	" Samuel Redpath 15 00
31	" Fred. W. Cooke. 20 00	30	Daus. of Steph. Smith 20 00
31	Bro. T. R. Wood.... 50 00	30	Mrs. Wm. Brodison.. 20 00
31	Mrs. John Romer.... 20 00	30	" Elisha Saunders 15 00
31	" R. H. Wright ... 20 00	30	" John Harvey... 10 00
31	Wife of A. Kennedy.. 20 00	30	" John Thompson. 10 00
31	Mrs. A. E. Baker.... 20 00	30	Bro. W. W. Cameron. 25 00
31	Sister of W. Corrigan. 25 00	30	Mrs. James Miller. 15 00
31	Mrs. S. Townsend... 20 00	30	Wid. and Dau. of A.
31	" Anthony Davy... 10 00	A. Ross... 20 00	
31	" W. H. Street.... 10 00	30	Bro. D. McNabb 25 00
31	" R. E. Harrison.. 15 00	30	Mrs. Hugh Rankin... 20 00

Sept. 1899	Nov. 1899
30 Mrs. E. K. Bowen.... 10 00	30 Mrs. G. T. Porter ... 10 00
30 " W. C. Smart... 15 00	30 " Wm. McCargon. 15 00
30 " Wm. Scott 10 00	30 " Jestie Wright... 20 00
30 Bro. G. A. E. Chart-wood..... 40 00	30 " John Chapman.. 10 00
30 Mrs. A. Coombs.... 10 00	30 Bro. Peter Brown.... 50 00
30 Orph. of Wm. Crozier 15 00	30 Mrs. E. Cherry..... 10 00
30 Mrs. Donald McNeil. 10 00	30 Orphs. of S. Phoenix. 15 00
30 Bro. Robt. H. Green. 40 00	30 Mrs. Chas. Allens .. 10 00
30 Dau. of Geo Dean ... 25 00	30 " W. P. Kingalsaur. 20 00
30 Orphs of J. R. Steele. 20 00	30 Bro. William Carl.... 40 00
30 Bro. Alex. Findlay.. 25 00	30 Mrs. Henry Jones.... 10 00
30 Miss Nary M. Harris. 18 75	30 " Hy. Richardson. 10 00
October.	30 Bro. Peter Dorr. 25 00
31 Mrs. Oliver Young... 20 00	30 Orphs. of M. Nesbit.. 20 00
31 " F. S. Stethem.. 10 00	30 Mrs. Ronald Camdbell 15 00
31 " Adam Armstrong 40 00	30 Orphs. of J. H. Bothwell..... 10 00
31 " G. C. Longley .. 20 00	30 " " " " " 10 00
31 " David Robertson 10 00	30 Mrs. Thos. Blackburn 10 00
31 " Richard Hill .. 20 00	30 " T. J. McDougall 20 00
31 " Henry Liersche. 20 00	30 " J. Scotland.... 20 00
31 Bro. Henry Bell..... 40 00	30 " W. E. Johnson. 10 00
31 Mrs. John Kingston.. 10 00	30 " S. H. McCoy... 20 00
31 " W. M. Wilson.. 37 50	30 Bro. Wm. Davidson.. 40 00
31 " Wm. Fingland.. 10 00	30 Mrs. John McKillican 10 00
31 " H. L. Kifner .. 20 00	December.
31 " W. B. Simpson. 25 00	31 Mrs. James Allen.... 20 00
31 " Samuel Latimer 20 00	31 Bro. Thos. Parkinson 40 00
31 " J. L. Young 10 00	January. 1900
31 " Francis Brown.. 10 00	31 Miss Mary Wilson... 75 00
31 Miss Mary Wilson... 75 00	31 Bro. Wm. Helm..... 40 00
31 Mrs. R. R. G. Montgomery 10 00	31 Miss Mary H. Harris. 18 75
31 Dau. of Wm. Wilkin-son 40 00	31 Mrs. Isaac Hogg..... 10 00
31 Bro. John Scotr 50 00	31 " W. M. Wilson... 37 50
31 Bro. Henry Newton.. 50 00	31 Bro. Thos. Dutler... 50 00
31 Mrs. W. A. Harvey .. 10 00	31 Mrs. H.G.F. Torrance 30 00
31 " A. Bowman ... 20 00	February.
31 Bro. Edward Green.. 50 00	28 Bro. J. L. Dickson .. 25 00
31 Mrs. E. Gilday 10 00	28 Orphs. of T. Lockerty 20 00
31 " John Polley 50 00	28 Bro. Alex. Findlay... 25 00
31 Child. of R. E. Fisher 30 00	28 Mrs. Robert White.. 10 00
31 Mrs Chas. W. Noble. 10 00	28 Bro. T. Mudge. 25 00
31 Moth. of Sam. Dock-stader 20 00	28 Mrs. Wm Whitters.. 10 00
31 Bro. J. A. Sloan 15 00	28 " W. Widgey.... 20 00
31 Bro. W. E. Sills..... 50 00	28 Bro. James W. Crate 25 00
31 Bro. W. Rombough.. 50 00	28 Mrs. Wm. Jolley.... 20 00
November.	28 " A. R. Paul..... 20 00
30 Mrs. James Young... 15 00	28 " J. Parker..... 15 00
30 " J. Zimmerman.. 10 00	28 " Hy. Mannuill... 20 00
30 " David Gardner.. 10 00	28 Bro. C. W. Brown ... 25 00
30 " A. C. Inwood... 10 00	28 Mrs. H. Canning ... 10 00
	28 Orphs. of J. A. Blott. 10 00
	28 Mrs. Wm. Leaney ... 15 00
	28 Bro. A. Couper..... 25 00

Feb. 1900

28	Mrs. John Hodgson..	20 00
28	Orphs. of S. Phoenix.	15 00
28	Wife of S. M. Davies.	20 00
28	Mrs. James Young...	15 00
28	" John Treemeer ..	10 00
28	" James Allen.....	10 00
28	Bro. Alex. Barr.....	25 00
28	Mrs. John Wills	10 00
28	" J. T. Gurnett... ..	20 00
28	" W. J. Smythe ..	10 00
28	Bro. J. A. Sloan.....	15 00
28	Mrs. Hy. Jones.....	10 00
28	" J. C. Inwood ...	10 00
28	" L. York	20 00
28	" G. T. Porter... ..	10 00
28	" Chas. Graham..	15 00
28	" John Jackson..	20 00
28	" Arthur Lloyd... ..	20 00
28	" John Manning..	20 00
28	" W. H. Hunter ..	40 00
28	" Thos. G. Shaw..	10 00
28	Bro. J. C. Williams..	25 00
28	Mrs. Jas. Matherell ..	10 00
28	" Jas Woodrow..	10 00
28	" John Hicks.....	20 00
28	" T. W. Harrison..	10 00
28	" C. E. S. Black..	10 00
28	Bro. R. T. Smith.....	25 00
28	Mrs. James Filton..	10 00
28	" Thomas Frazer ..	20 00
28	" Thomas Vesey..	20 00
28	" David Small... ..	20 00
28	" L. G. Joliffe ...	10 00
28	" John Forrest... ..	20 00
28	Bro. D. McNabb ..	25 00
28	Mrs John Mander..	20 00
28	" J. R. L. Smith..	15 00
28	" R. Carey.....	15 00
28	Bro. Andrew McLane.	25 00
28	Mrs. William Mills..	10 00
28	Wid. and Orphs. John	
	McDonald.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Alex. Miller. .	10 00
28	" James Bowie ...	10 00
28	" Alex. J. Short..	20 00
28	" Thos. McC. Law-	
	rance	10 00
28	" Edward Wasell.	15 00
28	" G. B. Gray.	10 00
28	Bro. W. W. Cameron.	25 00
28	Mrs. Jacob McClair..	10 00
28	" A. Jeffery.....	15 00
28	Bro. R. C. Wright....	25 00
28	Mrs. W. C. Smart ...	15 00

Feb. 1900

28	Mrs. G. C. Longley..	20 00
28	" Wm. Marriott..	10 00
28	Orph. of Wm. Crozier	15 00
28	Mrs. J. S. Baker.....	10 00
28	" Jcs. McGibbury.	10 00
28	" S. Townsend....	20 00
28	" G. H. Baillie ...	15 00
28	" John Chapman..	10 00
28	Bro. Walter Hume ..	50 00
28	Mrs. John Evans	15 00
28	" N. F. Southcott..	15 00
28	Bro. W. T. Duff	50 00
28	Mrs. Nathan Smith..	20 00
28	Sister of W. Corrigan	25 00
28	Mrs. Richard Hill ...	20 00
28	" John Munroe....	10 00
28	" John Rouse.....	20 00
28	Bro. Jas. C. Wilson..	25 00
28	Mrs. S. L. Ponton ...	15 00
28	Dau. of R. H. Bonny-	
	castle	20 00
28	Mrs. S. W. Blandin..	10 00
28	Bro. C. Scarborough.	25 00
28	Mrs. John Vaux.....	15 00
28	Moth. of J. B. Cum-	
	tings	40 00
28	Bro. John A. Scott..	25 00
28	Mrs. W. McBurney ..	20 00
28	Bro. John Blackburn.	50 00
28	Mrs. F. S. Slethem ..	10 00
28	Bro. Wm. Campbell..	50 00
28	Dau. of Wm. Kerr... ..	10 00
28	Mrs. T. Richardson ..	10 00
28	" David Ross ...	10 00
28	" McKee Conklin ..	25 00
28	" John Williams..	10 00
28	" David Wilcox ...	10 00
28	Bro. James Richmond	25 00
28	Mrs Peter Grant	20 00
28	" Wm. Brodison ..	20 00
28	" J. A. Macinnes..	10 00
28	" Richard Phillips	15 00
28	" G. S. Macfarlane	20 00
28	" John Weir	10 00
28	Orphans of R. S. Mc-	
	Auslan	10 00
28	Mrs. E. K. Bowen... ..	10 00
28	" W. J. Arnice... ..	20 00
28	" William Perry... ..	20 00
28	Dau. of John Dean..	25 00
28	Mrs. E. Kester	10 00
28	Bro. John Findlay..	25 00
28	Mrs. Robt. A. Kerby.	10 00
28	" W. S. Peckover..	20 00

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Feb. 1900

28	Wife of A. Kennedy..	20 00
28	Mrs. Francis Brown..	10 00
28	" Edment Hill....	20 00
28	" J. Scotland.....	20 00
28	Bro. James Wade....	25 00
28	" F. P. Gassion....	50 00
28	" John Juek.....	25 00
28	Mrs. A. L. Rundle....	15 00
28	" J. G. Jorgensen..	10 00
28	Bro. F. Deversaux....	25 00
28	Mrs. T. Blackburn....	10 00
28	Bro. John Scott....	50 00
28	" Peter Brown....	50 00
28	Ers. H. Richardson..	10 00
28	" S. L. Comins....	10 00
28	" John A. Angell..	15 00
28	" Thos. Brock....	10 00
28	" J. L. Young	10 00
28	" M. C. Brown ...	10 00
28	" Wm. McCargon..	15 00
28	" T. B. Johnston ..	20 00
28	" P. Paterson	10 00
28	" Wm. Sharp.....	10 00
28	Wife of R. Hassard..	25 00
28	Mrs. P. D. McArthur..	20 00
28	" Leslie Wright...	20 00
28	Orph. M. Nesbit	20 00
28	Mrs. T. J. McDougall	20 00
28	" Chas. Allens....	10 00
28	" John Kennedy..	10 00
28	" T. T. Agar	40 00
28	" Anthony Davy..	10 00
28	" G. L. Eddleston..	10 00
28	" Geo. Christie....	15 00
28	" J. Zimmerman..	10 00
28	" James Miller ...	15 00
28	" Wm. Ramsay....	20 00
28	" John Kingston..	10 00
28	" Robt. A. Page ..	20 00
28	" John Wright ...	11 00
28	" W. B. Wallace...	15 00
28	" Robt. C. Carter..	50 00
28	Bro. H. A. Wetherell..	52 00
28	Bro. John Chaselay..	10 00
28	Mrs. Alf. Goldsmith..	10 00
28	Orph. of Jno. Jenkins	50 00
28	Mrs. Jas. C. Bogart ..	10 00
28	" William Ross...	10 00
28	" A. S. McIntyre ..	10 00
28	" J. T. Jones	40 00
28	" W. Holmwood ..	20 00
28	" Wm. Fuiglow....	10 00
28	Bro. Peter Dow	25 00
28	Mrs. George Goslee ..	5 00

April. 1900

28	Mrs. David Gardner..	10 00
28	" A. Graham.....	15 00
28	" T. D. Harrington	110 00
28	" Andrew Kellock..	25 00
28	" Jno. Thompson ..	10 00
28	" G. W. Shields ..	15 00
28	" John Abbott....	20 00
28	Bro. W. E. Sills	50 00
28	Mrs. R. H. Wright...	20 00
28	" A. Coombs	10 00
28	Bro. P. Meyers	25 00
28	Mrs. Wm. Johnstone..	15 00
28	" R. E. Harrison ..	15 00
28	" Henry Hall.....	10 00
28	" A. E. Baker.....	20 00
March.		
31	Mrs. S. Stevenson....	10 00
31	" David Robertson	10 00
31	" Jno. E. Edwards	10 00
31	" Robert Gibson..	10 00
31	Bro. Charles McKay..	10 00
31	Orph. of J. R. Steele	20 00
31	Mrs. Adam Petrie....	10 00
31	" M. F. Haney	15 00
31	Bro. S. L. Dockstader	20 00
31	Wid. & Dan. of A. A.	
	Ross	20 00
31	Mrs. W. P. Kingston..	20 00
31	" H. A. Etherington	
	.....	40 00
31	" Richard Flood ..	20 00
31	" Isaac Hogg.....	10 00
31	" W. A. Fowler....	20 00
31	Bro. T. R. Wood	50 00
31	Bro. Jas. Bowman ...	25 00
31	Mrs. A. Woodhouse..	15 00
31	" Henry Lierch ..	20 00
31	" Thos. Elliott ...	10 00
31	" E. Saunders....	15 00
31	" Rich. Radcliffe..	15 00
31	Dau. of S. Smith	20 00
31	Mrs. F. Elbington ..	20 00
31	" E. Gilday	10 00
31	" Levi Neil	10 00
31	" Jos. Middleton..	10 00
31	" Hugh Rankin...	20 00
31	" Chas. W. Noble..	10 00
31	" Wm. Scott	10 00
31	" Peter R. Davy..	15 00
31	Bro. L. W. Whitney ..	50 00
31	Mrs. W. B. Simpson..	25 00
31	" Jas. McKillican..	10 00
April.		
30	Mrs. John Harvey...	10 00

April	1900	May	1900
30	Miss Mary Wilson... 75 00	31	Orphs. of H. Bothwell 10 00
30	Bro. Edward Green.. 50 00	31	Bro. Wm. Rombough. 50 00
30	Mrs. E. Cherry..... 10 00	31	Mrs. Samuel Latimer 20 00
30	" W. Searcliffe... 10 00	31	" Ronald Campbell 15 00
30	" W. H. Karn.... 30 00	Treasurer National Patri-	
30	" Donald McNeil. 10 00	otic Fund, relief of	
30	" W. M. Wilson.. 37 50	sufferers by Indian	
30	" Robert Young.. 10 00	famine.... 1000 00	
30	" R. R. G. Mont-	Relief of sufferers Ottawa	
	gomery. 10 00	and Hull fire..... 2000 00	
May		Total \$13150 00	
31	Mrs. James Hortop . 10 00		
31	" A. S. Bowman.. 20 00		

All of which is fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungertord, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received, considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ERIE DISTRICT, NO. 1.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit herewith my report on the condition of Masonry in Erie District No. 1, for the past year.

To the Brethren of the district I express my heartfelt thanks for the honor which they conferred upon me in electing me to the important position of D. D. G. M. of

this district, but still more for the hearty and generous reception extended to me throughout the district whether upon ordinary business or upon my official visits.

I would particularly mention only two who from their active interest may truly be called Fathers of the Craft in Erie District, viz., R. W. Bro. MacNabb, of Chatham, and R. W. Bro. Allworth, of Kingsville. The former is still looked upon as the tutor of a number of lodges in the center of the district, while he also keeps himself in touch with most of the Lodges in the whole of the Western Peninsula.

Of R. W. Bro. Allworth at the Western end, it may be truly said he is looking well to the West. His long service in the interests of St. George's Lodge and deep interest in the surrounding Lodges is a credit to the Craft and a blessing to the lodges concerned.

Many others are deserving of mention, but suffice it to say, we have many old and tried Masons still in active work.

To my predecessors in office of D. D. G. M., I may say that their efforts in perfecting Masonry in this district have been appreciated, and upon visiting the several Lodges I found prominent traces of their work in the uniform manner in which the officers of the several Lodges performed their duties, and this stimulated me to greater zeal in the hope that my visits and work might add still further to the perfecting of the work in this district.

I devoted a portion of my time in each Lodge to the principles of Masonry as applied to members and endeavored to impress upon them the necessity of applying those principles with even greater assiduity than they displayed in their work in the Lodge room; also impressing upon them the wishes of the M. Wor. the Grand Master regarding the restoration of all good Masons to membership in the different Lodges.

By resolution of delegates at district meeting during last communication of Grand Lodge I purchased a D. D. G. M.'s apron which I presented to R. W. Bro. Hillier, Immediate Past D. D. G. M., as a mark of appreciation for the work done by him in the district.

Petitions were received from three different points for

the establishment of Lodges, and these were treated in accordance with the Constitution.

During my term of office I granted dispensations to six lodges, all for the purpose of attending Divine Service clothed as Masons. These I have reported to the Grand Secretary..

The election of officers is a point upon which several of the District Deputy Grand Masters have expressed opinions during each year for some time past, and I would respectfully call the attention of Grand Lodge to it. Where the officers of private Lodges are elected at different times it is very difficult for the D. D. G. M. to so arrange his visits so as to give the officers of all Lodges time to get into running shape; whereas, if they were all elected in June, and I find that very few visits are made by D. D. G. M.'s before November, it would give them at least four months in which to perfect themselves and still leave ample time for the D. D. G. M. to get through with his official visits.

I find that every Lodge contributed to my expenses to the same amount, and this was done voluntarily. I presume some of my predecessors must have educated them to this method.

My correspondence I found very heavy, but endeavored to treat it upon business principles and succeeded fairly well in keeping up with it.

I find that most Lodges forget that returns should be sent in immediately after June 24th in each year, and while a few Secretaries were very prompt, the greater number did not send them until after July 1, and some of them had to be notified a second time.

I received notice of change in by-laws from The Hammond 327, Central 402, Essex, and Windsor 403, Windsor. These were forwarded with my sanction to the M. W. the Grand Master for his confirmation.

By dispensation granted by the M. W. the Grand Master, I healed Bro. Teasdal Dixon, of Detroit, in Windsor Lodge, with the consent of the said Lodge.

The subject of refreshments may prove of interest when I state that during my official visits I found no intoxicating liquors at any of the suppers, and I find this to be the custom, and, in fact, some of the Lodges prohibit by by-law. The promoters of the prohibition motion will see that their efforts are bearing fruit in the

private Lodges, even if they are not successful with their motion in Grand Lodge.

Lorne, No. 282: I visited this Lodge on April 12th, and saw the first degree conferred in a very proper way by W. Bro. French and his officers. I regret that this Lodge has not yet obtained a place of meeting, used only for themselves, but they are in a fair way to do so, and I hope to see them in new quarters before the end of the year. The standing of the Lodge, both in regards to work and finance, is good, and as they are receiving several young members, they are in a good position to make rapid advancement, which I have no doubt they will do under the guiding hand of W. Bro. French, who devotes himself heartily to the work.

Great Western, No. 47, Windsor: On April 26th I visited this Lodge and found the brethren to the number of 100 or more gathered, among them being a number from Windsor Lodge, as well as several from Detroit, and it afforded me great pleasure to find the close intimacy between the Lodges in this city and the brethren across the border. I had the pleasure of being present when the Grand Lodge of Michigan received a visit from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and it was with pleasure that I again met some of our American brethren and found them putting into practice the sentiments of good-will which they expressed upon our visit to their Grand Lodge. Under W. M. White I find Great Western enjoying a prosperity unprecedented in the history of the Lodge, and his devotion to the work is shown in the number of meetings held, which average more than one a week, and his presence at all of them. He has done a lot of work, and before his year is over I think he will have the pleasure of knowing that it has been the banner year of Great Western. I met there R. W. Bros. D'Avignon, Wigle, Payne, and Clarke, and several other brethren distinguished in the Craft. I saw the work of the third degree, and, as expected, it was well done, and the officers of the Lodge show the result of training which would be expected of them when we find so many eminent brethren in attendance at their regular meetings. I found P. M. Carley still active in promoting the work. I shall remember with pleasure my visit to Great Western, and trust I

shall again meet with them, for a heartier Masonic greeting would be difficult to get.

Central, No. 402, Essex: I visited on April 27th and found them in excellent condition. The third degree was conferred by W. Bro. Brien, W. M., and in a manner very pleasing to me. Attendance about 25. Here I found the work of the junior officers particularly deserving of attention, and I attribute the success of this Lodge chiefly to the care bestowed upon the training of its officers in their respective duties. My visit to Central proved that even in country lodges the work can be performed with as much skill as in the best city lodges.

Wellington, No. 46, Chatham: Visited May 7th. Found a good number present, among whom R.W. Bro. MacNabb was prominent. W. M. Turner and officers conferred the third degree in good manner. This Lodge is working hard, and although some of the brethren are not quite energetic enough, I find the officers of a class that must succeed in awakening enthusiasm in the lodge. The condition of the Lodge is first class, and I hope to see them overloaded with work in the near future.

Tecumseh, No. 245, Thamesville: Visited May 8th, and in view of the fact that there was a downpour of rain all evening the attendance was good. W. Bro. Horn did the work, and he and his officers sustained the reputation of the Lodge for first-class work. This Lodge has for some years been in very good condition, and I believe from the interest manifested is likely to continue so.

Star of the East, No. 422, Bothwell: Visited May 9th. R. W. Bro. Hickey, W. M., conferred the third degree and was supported by an excellent staff of officers, who, under his training, have become very expert in their work. A number of brethren from Highgate were in attendance, and a good time was in order. The work of this Lodge is very good indeed, and they look after the financial condition well. A method of supplying refreshments is employed by this Lodge which may be of interest to other Lodges where this question may have to be viewed from a financial standpoint. At each meeting three of the brethren volunteer to supply refreshments at next regular, and they do so in a manner to make a nice lunch at small cost to themselves and

no expense to the Lodge. I believe this to be a very good plan where a small lodge is not financially strong, and if it works as well as I found it in Star of the East, I would certainly recommend it to others in the district. The Secretary, Bro. Bailey, is deserving of mention, as he is prompt and painstaking in his work.

Highgate, No. 336, Highgate: Visited May 11th. I had already spent a social evening with this lodge at their annual At Home, which was a very pleasant affair. I found the work performed by W. M. Gosnell and his officers of such a character as to stamp this as one of the best working Lodges in the district. The attendance at meetings is large and financial standing good. I was also present at their Silver Jubilee on July 13th, when they gave a very fine picnic, at which were present prominent Masons from the district, among whom I may mention R. W. Bros. MacNabb and Carscallen and V. W. Bro. Peters. W. M. Bro. MacNabb, who instituted this Lodge, was the recipient of a beautifully worded address, to which he replied in a suitable manner.

Howard, No. 391, Ridgetown: Visited May 14th. No degree work, but the W. M. exemplified some of the work in an excellent manner. There was a good attendance, and the brethren, under W. M. Porter, show energy and enthusiasm in their work. This Lodge is in good working condition, and I have faith in its future.

Windsor, No. 403, Windsor: Visited May 18th. Here I again met a large gathering of the brethren, together with a good representation from Great Western and also from Detroit. The W. M. exemplified the M. M. degree and with the assistance of his officers succeeded in performing the work in an excellent manner. There were present a number of P. D. D. G. M.'s, who took part in the discussion which followed the work, and made the meeting one of particular interest, and, I trust, of profit to the Lodge. R. W. Bro. Allworth, of Kingsville, was present, and his genial manner and active interest made him a most welcome visitor in the Lodge room, and a popular guest at the social gathering afterwards. W. Bro. Milner of this Lodge is a prominent figure, and his energetic work for the Craft makes him a valued member, and one which they hope long to retain with them. The social part of the work

is not forgotten in the city of Windsor, and the festive gatherings after work were very pleasant indeed, and the "after dinner" speeches were of interest, as prominent speakers responded to most of the toasts. I may safely say that in the City of Windsor Masonry is in a most flourishing condition, and from the interest manifested trust and believe it will continue to flourish.

Rodney, No. 411, Rodney: Visited June 6th. I again found a stormy night and few of the brethren braved it, but those who did were of the stamp that make a lodge what it ought to be. The W. M. was absent, but P. M. Dr. Dorland occupied the Master's chair and opened and closed in three degrees. The points suggested were discussed in an interesting manner. This Lodge has had a period of depression, but they have plenty of good workers and I trust it will soon begin a period of activity.

Kent, No. 274, Blenheim: Visited June 11th. Here I found one of the best Secretaries in the district, W. Bro. Crookshanks, and the financial standing of the Lodge is in very good shape owing to his efforts. There was no degree work, but W. M. Dr. Storey opened and closed in three degrees. The work of this Lodge is not so good as it ought to be, but the officers have decided that it will be up to the mark before the close of the year, and I trust it will.

Leamington, No. 290, Leamington: Visited June 12. Here I was met by R. W. Bro. Hillier, and a large number of the brethren of the Lodge. The work of this Lodge is well done, and the officers are active in the performance of their duties, and my visit was a pleasure to me. R. W. Bro. Hillier still exerts a guiding influence over this Lodge, and as his term of office as D. D. G. M. proved one of great benefit to the district, it may be seen that his home Lodge must benefit continually from his presence at their meetings. Leamington Lodge is decidedly all right.

St. George, No. 41, Kingsville: Visited June 13th. Here I again met R. W. Bro. Allworth at home as W. M. of the Lodge, and ably assisted by Wor. Bro. Dr. White, Im. P. M. The work in this Lodge is well done, and although I did not see any degree conferred, I had some of the work exemplified, and find the brethren of St. George's in good condition and under able officers.

R. W. Bro. Allworth was filling the Master's chair for the twentieth time, and his energetic nature and love of Masonry were reflected upon all the members of the Lodge.

Sydenham, No. 255, Dresden: Visited June 14. Here they had their election of officers, and from the short time occupied in this part of the work I would judge that they had no difficulty in selecting good men to fill the chairs. The Lodge is in good condition and the work well done. The W. M. is a worker and his manner of conferring the work was excellent. R. W. Bro. Carscallen, of Dresden, and R. W. Bro. Nixon, of Toronto, were present, and took part in the discussions. This Lodge has a high standard of efficiency, and the members are socially "jolly good fellows."

Pnyx, No. 312, Wallaceburg: Visited June 15. As this was not a regular meeting the attendance was small. The W. M. has left, and the working of this Lodge is sadly interfered with. The members present were mostly Past Masters, and as there was no degree work we devoted the time to discussing the best means of getting the Lodge into good working shape. The Secretary, Bro. Parker, is a whole host, and devoted to Masonry, so I trust Pnyx will soon have a prosperous period.

Parthenon, No. 267: Visited June 22nd. This Lodge had election of officers, and I am led to believe that those chosen are well fitted for the work. R. W. Bro. MacNabb was present, and the Lodge shows the result of his guiding hand. The work is well done, and although it is not plentiful I trust in the near future to hear of a prosperity fitting the ability of this Lodge to perform the work.

The Hammond, No. 327, Wardsville: Visited June 25th. As this is my own Lodge I installed the officers, and, knowing them as I do, I believe the work will be well done. Although few in number, we are strong in Masonry.

McColl, No. 386, West Lorne: Visited July 13th. A good number of the brethren were present, and, although no degree work was done, I feel satisfied that the W. M. and his officers are able to do the work in a satisfactory manner. The Lodge is in good working condition. Owing to sudden and serious illness of a

brother here whom I waited upon professionally. I was compelled to cancel my engagements with the following Lodges and hence did not visit them, viz.: Thistle, No. 34, Amherstburg; Florence, No. 390, Florence; Parvaim, No. 395, Comber; Naphtali, No. 413, Tilbury. Of those Lodges, I may say that I received good reports of their work, and believe them up to the standard. Florence Lodge has been enjoying a prosperous year and has advanced materially during the past two years.

I find great uniformity in the main points of the work, but there is still room for improvement in the manner in which the junior officers perform their duties. There is a tendency to laxity and want of energy, and this should be considered and corrected by the W. M.'s and P. M.'s. I find that where the Past Masters take an active interest in their Lodges that the work is of a higher order than where they drop out as soon as they are through the several chairs. This is as it ought to be, and I believe the duties of Past Masters should be carried out faithfully, and by this means the officers of a lodge can be brought to a higher state of perfection in the performance of their work.

I am also surprised to find so many members in arrears and such large amounts in some of the lodges. The by-laws of the lodges afford a remedy for this, and it cannot be excused upon the plea of making it a hardship to carry out those by-laws. I trust my successor will not have this to complain of, for no institution can succeed if its financial affairs are not properly managed.

All of which is courteously and fraternally submitted.

J. T. McKILLOP, D. D. G. M.,

Erie District, No. 1.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 2.

*The Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor herewith to present to you my report on the condition of Masonry in St. Clair District, No. 2, for the year ending 24th June, 1900. And in doing so I take the opportunity of thanking the brethren of this district for the honor they conferred on me by electing me by an unanimous vote to the honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master. And further, for the kind and courteous manner in which they received and treated me during my term of office.

On my official visit to each Lodge I was received in a true Masonic manner, and my stay with them was made as pleasant as it was possible to be, and I might also say to the credit of the Lodges of this district that in every case my expenses were cheerfully paid.

My first official act was the appointment of Wor. Bro. Neil McLean, P. M. of Cassia Lodge, No. 116, as District Secretary, and who I wish here to thank for his able assistance. He accompanied me on many of my visits and helped me in my duties with cheerfulness and zeal.

I also appointed Rev. Bro. T. C. Cluff, of Beaver Lodge, No. 83, District Chaplain. He preached to the brethren in Petrolea on June 24th, 1900, one of the best Masonic sermons I ever had the pleasure of listening to.

I have visited all the Lodges in the district once and some of them twice, except Ionic Lodge No. 328. This Lodge has not been doing anything for some time. My predecessor thought the warrant should be removed. I will leave the matter for Grand Lodge to deal with as in their wisdom they may see fit. I arranged my visits so that they would fall on the nights of the regular

meetings of the Lodges, giving each Lodge due notice. I have tried to correct any errors that existed in any of the lodges and impressed upon them their duty as Masons and the high importance of Masonry, which I am pleased to say was well received. Masonry in this district is in a prosperous condition, and harmony prevails to a great degree. Most of the Lodges have had a fair amount of work to do, and the manner in which the degrees are conferred and the general business conducted is on the whole entirely satisfactory.

The following deaths have been reported to me: Bro. B. Batchelor and Bro. John Detweler, Arkona Lodge, No. 307; Bro. Henry Brown, Alexandra Lodge, No. 158; Bro. Charles L. Vail, M. D., Victoria Lodge, No. 56; Bro. George Leslie, Moore Lodge, N. 294, and Bro. Robert F. Manley, Cassia Lodge, No. 116.

I granted dispensations to attend Divine Service clothed as Masons as follows: Victoria Lodge, No. 56, Sarnia, Dec. 17th, 1899; Washington Lodge, No. 260, June 24th, 1900; Havelock Lodge, No. 238, Watford, July 15th, 1900.

A Lodge of Instruction was held under the auspices of Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, at Oil Springs, on the afternoon and evening of February 1st, 1900. The first degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. Hart, of Burus Lodge, No. 153, assisted by the officers of Washington Lodge, No. 260. The second degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. Belasco, W. M. of Washington Lodge, assisted by his officers. The work of each degree was well done and called for a good deal of credit to each officer which they received from the brethren.

In the evening the third degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. Parks, I. P. M. of Alexander Lodge, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, and the work was done very correctly. A good deal of friendly discussion took place on different questions, which was very profitable to us all. R. Wor. Bro. Ben George, on behalf of the brethren of St. Clair District, presented my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Weir, with a beautiful P. D. D. G. M.'s regalia. Bro. Weir thanked the brethren of the district for their kindness to him. Our number was not large on account of the condition of the roads and very cold weather. However, a most enjoyable and profitable

time was spent, and I thank the brethren who so ably assisted me with the work.

Washington Lodge, No. 260, Petrolea: By a special request from the W. M., I visited this Lodge Oct. 4th, 1899. Two candidates were passed to the second degree—one by the W. M., Bro. Belasco, and the officers of the lodge, the other by Wor. Bro. Parks, assisted by the officers of Alexandra Lodge. Wor. Bro. Belasco and Wor. Bro. Parks are correct workers and very enthusiastic Masons. The work of the officers was well done. A very large number of members and visitors were present. I visited this Lodge officially on Feb. 7. The work of the evening was a candidate for initiation, also opened and closed in the second and third degrees. This is a very prosperous Lodge. The W. M. and officers are all good workers and take quite an interest in their Lodge. I had the pleasure of meeting R. Wor. Bro. Sinclair and several Past Masters at this meeting, and we also had a very large turnout of the members and visitors. At the close of the meeting a most enjoyable time was spent around the festive board.

Bismarck Lodge, No. 419, Point Edward: Visited this Lodge Oct. 9th, 1899. There was a very fair attendance of members. The S. W. and S. D. were absent. The work of the evening was a candidate for initiation; also opened and closed in the second and third degrees. The work was fairly well done by the Wor. M., Bro. McKenzie. The officers also did fairly well. The books are well kept by R. W. Bro. George. Dues fairly paid. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Weir, also a number of brethren from Victoria Lodge. The brethren of Bismarck Lodge are worthy of a good deal of credit for the manner in which they keep up in the work; also having their Lodge in good standing, considering that most of their members are railway men, and it is impossible for them to attend lodge regularly. A pleasant hour was spent around the festive board after the Lodge closed.

Ionic Lodge, No. 328, Napier. I wrote the W. M. of this Lodge, Bro. Toohill, after I was elected D.D.G.M. Told him I was sorry to see that they were not getting along well in Ionic, and I would do all in my power to assist in any way I could, if they would try and have a meeting and let me know. He thanked me, but I re-

ceived no word of a meeting. They have had only two or three meetings a year for the last few years. I understand some of the members are trying to get the Lodge in shape again.

St. Clair Lodge, No. 425, Sombra: Visited this Lodge Oct. 17th. I found a very good attendance of members and visitors. Two candidates were balloted for. Both were declared elected by the W. M., and one application was received. There was one candidate initiated by the W. M., assisted by his officers. The work was done in a very creditable manner, considering it was the first work the W. M. and officers had during their term of office. Wor. Bro. Roebuck gave the lecture, and it is needless to say it was well done. The W. M. opened and closed in the second and third degrees fairly well; all that is needed is a little more practice. Bro. Cowan is a first-class Secretary. He is trying to get in the dues, which have not been well paid in the past. Wor. Bro. Finlay accompanied me from Courtright. He takes quite an interest in Masonry. After the Lodge closed refreshments were served and a pleasant time spent by the members and visitors.

Leopold Lodge, No. 397, Brigden: I visited this Lodge Oct. 18th. A very large number of members and visitors were present. Visitors were from Alexandria, Washington, Petrolea and Moore Lodges. Work—a raising by the W. M., assisted by the officers of the Lodge. The work was very well done; also opened and closed correctly. I was pleased to hear the candidate answer the necessary questions so satisfactorily. I have tried to impress upon the W. M.'s the necessity of having candidates well posted before they are advanced; also that they should be able to repeat their obligation. R. W. Bro. Ward was present as usual. Some discussion on the work took place, which was very profitable. At the close of the meeting we were invited to the hotel, where supper was prepared, after which speeches, music and songs took place, and brought to a close a very happy meeting. Dues fairly paid and the books well kept.

St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mt. Brydges: Nov. 14th, 1899, accompanied from Strathroy by R. Wor. Bro. Whitehead, I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting. The Lodge room is very neat and comfortable. They

own the building and keep it well insured. Bro. West keeps the books in good shape. The W. M. and Secretary are trying to get in suspended members. There was a candidate for the third degree, but as he had not time to get the questions he was left until the next meeting. The W. M., assisted by his officers, opened and closed in the three degrees very correctly. The dues are well paid. Quite a number of Past Masters were present, also a good attendance of members. The J. W. invited us to the hotel, where we spent an enjoyable time at the refreshment table.

Moore Lodge, No. 294, Courtright: I visited this Lodge Nov. 16th. Found a very neat Lodge room, newly decorated, everything clean and in good order. Had no work for this meeting, but at my request the W. M. exemplified the first degree, assisted by his officers. Opened and closed in the second and third degrees. The work was fairly well done. They had no practice for some time. I am satisfied that the material is all right, and with a little more practice they can do the work correctly. A very large number of visitors were present from the American side (St. Clair); also from Sombra and Bridgen, a very good attendance of members were present. The books are in good shape, kept by Bro. Scott, M. D., who is a whole host in himself. After the Lodge was closed refreshments were served in the Lodge room, and a social hour spent by the members and visitors.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, Oil Springs: I visited this Lodge Nov. 23rd, 1899. We had a very large number of visitors from Washington, Petrolea, Victoria, Leopold and Alvinston Lodges. A special train was run from Petrolea to Oil Springs for the accommodation of the visiting brethren. A large number of members were also present. Two candidates were raised to the third degree, both being well posted in the questions. The work was conferred by Wor. Bro. Belasco and officers of Washington Lodge, and by the W. M., Bro. Parks, assisted by his officers. The work of each officer was well done, leaving no room for criticism. Wor. Bro. Parks takes quite an interest in his Lodge. This Lodge has been very prosperous. The dues are well paid and the books well kept by Wor. Bro. Chalmers. Bro. Beeton and Bro. Duggan look after the lodge well.

An adjournment was made to the banqueting hall, where an elaborate supper was prepared by the wives and lady friends of the members. A most enjoyable time was spent in speeches and songs, which lasted until 2 a.m., the brethren returning home well pleased with their visit to Alexandra Lodge.

Victoria Lodge, No. 56, Sarnia: Visited this Lodge Jan. 2, 1900. It was the first meeting for the W. M., Bro. Hall, and his officers in their respective chairs. They opened and closed in the three degrees very correctly. The material is all right. The officers are all enthusiastic, and with a little practice they will be second to none in the district. This Lodge is in a very prosperous condition. They have had a good year. Bro. Watson is a first-class Secretary. The first degree was conferred by Wor. Bro. Wood in a very correct and impressive manner. This is the home of my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Weir, and it is needless to say that he takes quite and interest in his Lodge. A large number of members and visitors were present. The visitors were entertained at the close of the proceedings in a manner worthy of the Victoria brethren.

Havelock Lodge, No. 238, Watford: Visited this Lodge Jan. 9th. There was a fair attendance of the members. They had no work for this meeting, but at my request the W. M., Bro. Harris, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, exemplified the second degree. The work was fairly well done. The officers are in need of practice. I advised them to practice more at their regular meetings, which if they do I am satisfied the W. M. and officers can do good work. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Newell and Wor. Bro. Saunders, both enthusiastic Masons. Bro. Watt is an efficient Secretary and keeps his books in perfect order. I hope this Lodge will have more work to do in the near future. After the Lodge was closed we were invited to Bro. Taylor's hotel, where an oyster supper was prepared for us and a social time spent by the brethren.

Forest Lodge, No. 263, Forest: I visited this Lodge Jan. 10th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. McLean. It was the first meeting for the W. M., Bro. Fraser, and the officers in their respective chairs. I found a very neat and comfortable Lodge room, and a good attendance of members and visitors. I had the pleasure of meeting

R. W. Bro. Sutherland. The W. M., ably assisted by the officers of the Lodge, opened and closed in the three degrees in an almost faultless manner, and I feel satisfied that when they have a degree to confer it will be done correctly. The books are well kept by the Secretary, Bro. Campbell, and the dues fairly collected. After the work of the evening was ended we retired to Bro. Davis' hotel, where a most enjoyable time was spent around the festive board.

Cassia Lodge, No. 116, Thedford: I visited this Lodge Jan. 15th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. McLean. The evening was very stormy, and most of the members live in the country, so the attendance was small. It was installation of officers, R. W. Bro. Sutherland installing Master. It is needless to say the work was well done. The officers did their work in closing very satisfactorily, especially the J. W., who is a very young Mason. R. W. Bro. Holwell was present, as usual, also Wor. Bro. Curry. Both take quite an interest in the affairs of Cassia Lodge. R. W. Bro. Sutherland was elected Secretary, and the books and dues will be well looked after. A social hour was enjoyed by the Brethren at an oyster supper at Bro. Holwell's hotel.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 437, Sarnia: I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this Lodge Jan. 17th, 1900. A very large number of visitors and members were present. This Lodge is in a very prosperous condition and has a good staff of officers. The part they took in the work was well done. The newly-installed Master closed the Lodge in the three degrees very correctly. Visited this Lodge officially March 21st. The work of the evening was one initiation and two candidates for the second degree. Bro. Kidd, the W. M., did his part well; also the Wardens and Deacons. The lectures were well given by the Wardens. This Lodge has had a good deal of work to do during the year. Wr. Bro. Winlow, it is needless to say, is a first-class Secretary. We also had a large turnout of members and visitors at this meeting. The candidates for advancement were well posted on the questions. At the close of the meeting a most enjoyable time was spent around the festive board, and brought a happy meeting of the members of Tuscan Lodge and visitors to a close.

Beaver Lodge, No. 83, Strathroy: Visited this Lodge

Jan. 19th. Two candidates were passed to the second degree—one by the W. M., Bro. Atkinson, and the officers of the Lodge, the other by Wor. Bro. McBeath, assisted by the same officers. The work throughout was well done by each officer, especially the S. D., who is the best I have had the pleasure of meeting with, his work, was almost perfection. This Lodge has had a most prosperous year and its prospects are bright. A number of Past Masters were present; also a large number of visitors and members. R. W. Bro. Whitehead and V. W. Bro. Mallon were in their usual places, keeping an eye to the business of the Lodge. It was in this Lodge I first saw the light of Masonry. Wor. Pro. Richardson looks after the books well. At the close refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed.

Dufferin Lodge, No. 364, Melbourne: Visited this Lodge Feb. 14th. I arrived in Longwood at 3 p. m., and was entertained by Bro. Sussex, W. M. of Dufferin Lodge. He drove me over to Melbourne and back. We found a fair attendance of members and visitors. Most of the members live in the country, and they have a habit of getting to lodge very late. I advised them to change their hour of meeting and try and open on time. They had no work, but at my request the W. M. and officers opened and closed in the three degrees fairly well, but there is room for improvement and need a good deal of practice. I also advised them to visit other Lodges as much as possible. Bro. Cooper, the secretary, was absent, but on examination of the books I found them fairly well kept. After the Lodge closed the visitors were entertained at the hotel.

Alvinston Lodge, No. 323, Alvinston: Visited this Lodge March 14th. I found a very comfortable and well furnished Lodge room. This Lodge has had a very prosperous year; the officers are very enthusiastic and are a credit to the Lodge. A large number of members and visitors were present. The work of the evening was a first, second and third degree, which were all conferred by the W. M., Bro. Martyn, and he was ably assisted by the officers of the Lodge. The work of each degree was done in a faultless manner. This Lodge has had a very prosperous year, and its prospects are bright. The books are well kept by the Secretary, Bro.

Code. At the close a social hour was spent around the festive board.

Burns Lodge, No. 153, Wyoming: I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this Lodge Dec. 27, 1899. A fair number of members were present. I visited this Lodge officially March 15th. The work of the evening was a second and third degree. The second degree was conferred by Wor. Bro. McLean, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, and the third degree was conferred by the W. M., Bro. Brodie, assisted by his officers. Both degrees were conferred in a very impressive and correct manner. Each officer did his part well. The candidates were well posted, both in the necessary questions and in their obligations, which they repeated without a mistake. This Lodge is improving every year and its prospects are good. R. W. Bro. Harvey was in his usual place. He is seldom absent. V. W. Bro. Wilson is a good Secretary and looks after the books well. A good attendance of members were present. After the Lodge closed the wants of the inner man were attended to by the J. W., and all enjoyed a social hour.

Petrolea Lodge, No. 194, Petrolea: I visited this Lodge April 7th.. A very large number of members and visitors were present. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Hungerford, Deputy Grand Master, also R. W. Bro. Sinclair, and several Past Masters. The work for the evening was a candidate to be raised to the third degree. Bro. McCann, the W. M., is a very correct worker; also the officers. The degree was conferred in a very impressive manner; also the opening and closing were done correctly. The J. W. of Washington Lodge and the S. W. of Petrolea Lodge gave the lectures of the tracing board in the first and second degrees, illustrated by stereopticon views, which were very much enjoyed by the brethren. Bro. Smith is an efficient Secretary. The books are well kept. After the Lodge was closed a banquet followed, which certainly reflected great credit on the brethren of Petrolea Lodge, and on Bro. Denham as a caterer. We had speeches and songs from several of the visitors and members, and an address from R. W. Bro. Hungerford, which we all enjoyed, and a happy meeting was brought to a close.

Arkona Lodge, No. 307, Arkona: Visited this Lodge April 12th. No regular work was on for the evening.

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but at my request the W. M., Bro. Towns, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, exemplified the third degree. The work was fairly well done. They have had very little practice during the year. I am satisfied the material is all right, and I hope they will have more work to do in the near future. They had a fair attendance of members. Bro. Nelson, the Secretary, was absent, but I found the books in first-class order. Several P.M.'s were present, who take quite an interest in the Lodge. At the close of the meeting we were entertained at the festive board and a pleasant hour enjoyed.

Huron Lodge, No. 392, Camlachie: I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this Lodge, Dec. 27th, 1899, in the afternoon, when we had a vrey good attendance of members. I visited this Lodge officially on May 9th, 1900. A candidate was passed to the second degree by the W. M., Bro. Trusler. All the officers were present, and the work throughout was done in a very satisfactory manner; also opened and closed in the third degree. This Lodge has done considerable work during the year, and its prospects are bright, and the dues are fairly paid, and the books are well kept by Wor. Bro. Trusler. After the Lodge closed we were entertained at the hotel, where a pleasant time was enjoyed by the Brethren of Huron Lodge.

I could not close this report without tendering to the Secretaries my sincere thanks for the prompt and excellent manner they have discharged their duties.

In conclusion, I wish to again tender my sincere thanks to the brethren of St. Clair district for their many acts of kindness, and for the pains they have taken to make my visits among them as pleasant as possible.

All of which is fraternally submitted

R. COGHLAN, D. D. G. M.,

St. Clair District, No. 2.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in St. Clair District, No. 2 from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.		Mem. ber ship.	Degre's conf'd		Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.		Amount paid for relief	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.								
			Decrease during year.	increase during year.		E. A.	F. C.					M. M.	Regular.	Emergency.	Total.																	
56	Victoria	Sarnia	105	14	119	17	14	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	11	14	25	23	\$33.50	7	\$86.75	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$1,000
81	St. John's	Mt. Brydges	54	1	55	4	10	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	114	20	23	10.00	8	20.00	May 26, 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	1,500	
83	Reaver	Strathroy	95	5	100	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	215	30	30	10.00	12	200.00	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Excellent	Yes	1,000	
116	Cassia	Thedford	33	2	35	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	110	10	11	5.00	5	10.00	June, 1900	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1,000		
153	Burns	Wyoming	73	6	79	3	5	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	114	115	174	17	10.00	6	105.75	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	1,200	
158	Alexandra	Oil Springs	54	1	55	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	112	116	17	17	10.00	6	75.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	250	
194	Petrolia	Petrolia	54	1	55	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	112	116	17	17	10.00	6	75.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	250	
231	Havelock	Watford	56	6	62	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	June, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	300	
260	Washington	Petrolia	79	8	87	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	Dec. 27, '99	Fair.	Improvg	Yes	400	
283	Forest	Forest	65	5	70	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	250	
304	Moore	Courtright	30	1	31	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500	
307	Arkona	Arkona	34	1	35	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500	
324	Alvinston	Alvinston	54	9	63	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	June 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500	
334	Ionic	Napier	81	2	83	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	Feb.	Dull.	No	Yes	Yes	
364	Dufferin	Cambridge	55	2	57	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113	113	20	20	10.00	9	80.00	Jan. 5, 1900	Fair.	Good.	Yes	Yes	
392	Huron	Cambridge	55	6	61	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	134	100	11	\$850	17	103.00	Dec.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Yes		
397	Leopold	Frieden	47	1	48	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	134	100	11	\$850	17	103.00	Dec.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Yes		
419	Bismarck	Pt. Edward	73	5	78	5	5	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	135	100	11	\$850	17	103.00	Dec.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300		
435	St. Clair	Sombra	43	6	49	6	6	6	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	135	100	11	\$850	17	103.00	Dec.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300		
437	Tuscan	Sarnia	61	14	75	3	9	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	123	100	10	\$300	10	123.00	Jun. 22, 1900	A1	Good.	Good.	Yes	Fully cover	

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 3.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M., of Canada, in the Province of Canada.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

It is with pleasure that I submit a report of my stewardship as District Deputy Grand Master of this district for the current year. My first official act was to direct a circular under my signature to be issued and forwarded to every lodge in the district calling the attention of the brethren to the earnest request of the M. W. the Grand Master to bring back to the fold those that have demitted and are not in affiliation, and also to investigate the position of those who have become suspended for non-payment of dues. I am pleased to say that the result of this movement has been very satisfactory, and I heartily recommend a continuation of the efforts of my brethren in this district.

I am delighted to record that the condition of Masonry has never been so good as at the present time ; it has been my privilege and pleasure to accompany some of my predecessors in office on many of their official visits, and I am in a position to assure you that the work is nearing perfection. I have carefully noted the marked increase in the rendition of the authorized work. In only two of the Lodges in this district did I observe that the present work was not followed throughout. In both instances I pointed out the errors and directed the brethren who made them what to do in future. With these exceptions uniformity in the work prevails throughout the district. I am of the opinion that the uniform accuracy of the rendition of the work can be assigned largely to the visiting of officers and brethren to their neighboring Lodges. I am certain that more good comes of this practice than the holding of Lodges of Instruction.

During my visits I paid special attention to impress

officers of Lodges to do the work carefully, accurately and impressively. The first impressions of a candidate are generally lasting. Too many are rushed to the chairs before they are fit, and the result is carelessness and inattention to the important part of the work.

During the year I visited every Lodge in the district at least once, and many of them twice, and in no case did I ever disappoint a Lodge. I gave each Lodge due notice of my intended visit, and was always welcomed by a large number of visitors, as well as members of the Lodges visited. On the occasions of my visits the Lodges seemed to vie with each other in the lavishness of their hospitality on myself and the visiting brethren. In almost every case the Lodge on my official visits contributed to my expenses.

Assisted by V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle, I installed the officers of Corinthian Lodge 330 on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist; and assisted by V. W. Bro. Bridle and V. W. Bro. P. Toll, Wor. Bros. Metherell, Symmonds, Childs and Blanchard, I installed the officers of King Solomon Lodge, No. 394, on the Festival of St. John the Baptist.

It has been intimated to me that the officers of two lodges in the district have been installed and invested at a time not fixed by their by-laws without permission of the M. W. the Grand Master. I regret very much that the Lodges in question did not procure the proper authority before doing what I consider a very improper thing.

Dispensations have been granted to Middlesex, No. 379; St. Thomas, No. 44; St. David's, No. 302; Henderson, No. 388; Cameron, No. 232; Merrill, No. 344, and St. John's, No. 20, to appear clothed as Masons in attendance on Divine Service and to King Solomon, No. 378, to move their Lodge from West London to the City of London.

I have been notified of the death of ten brethren, but I regret not to be able to report their names with the exception of the following:

R. W. Bro. McKay, P. D. D. G. M., St. Thomas, No. 44; Wor. Bro. A. Griffith, Mt. Olivet, No. 300, and Bros. Smith and Maddon, of King Solomon, No. 378.

As you are all aware, the home of six Lodges of London Masons was destroyed by fire in February this year.

It is needless to say that the loss to our brethren in London was great. Many valuable Masonic relics and records were destroyed which can never be replaced. Besides these there was a severe financial loss. The result has been a great drawback to the progress of Masonry in London this year.

I have every confidence, however, that our brethren will unite and procure a suitable Lodge room for the several Lodges in London.

By authority of the M. W. the Grand Master, I healed Bro. VanPatter, a member of the so-called Ontario Masons in Malahide Lodge, No. 140, at Aylmer, on April 11th, 1900, who forthwith put in his application for affiliation in said Lodge, and, I am pleased to say, was duly accepted.

Delaware Valley, No. 358: Visited 12th January, 1900, accompanied by V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle, of 380; V. W. Bro. Peter Toll, of Corinthian Lodge, No. 330; Bro. Davidson, of 380; Wor. Bro. Blanchard, of 330, and Bro. Mailhouse, of Chicago, Ill; Wor. Bro. Galpin, of 378, and Wor. Bro. Wallace, of Nilestown. There were also about forty other visitors from surrounding Lodges. Went out to instal officers, but as they had not secured the necessary dispensation I refused to instal them. Wor. M. Finch and officers then conferred the sublime degree of M. M. on Bro. Bodkin. The work was fairly done. The Wardens, however, did their parts very well. As there is very little work to do, and the officers are scattered around greatly, it is very difficult to have a rehearsal, which largely accounts for the deficiency in work. Was pleased to meet R. W. Bro. W. C. Harris at his Mother Lodge. The prospects are only fair. The books are well kept and dues pretty well paid up.

Prince of Wales, No. 171, Lawrence Station: Visited this Lodge 19th January, 1900, accompanied by Wor. Bro. S. Grant, Union 380. There were also many other visitors, including Wor. Bro. Dr. Guest and Wor. Bro. George Norman. There were not as many of their own members as I would like to have seen. Wor. Bro. Weldon, the W. M., initiated his own son in a very correct and impressive manner. The W. M., assisted by Wor. Bro. McIntyre, conferred the third degree on Bro. Campbell, in a very correct and impressive manner. The

sub-officers were not so good, but with the instruction I gave them will no doubt do better. Prospects very good. Books neatly kept. Dues well paid up.

Kilwinning, No. 64: Visited this Lodge on May 24, 1900. All the officers were in their places except the W. M., Wor. Bro. Murray, who was unavoidably absent. His business is of such a nature that he has to leave almost any time without much notice. The chair, however, was very ably filled by Wor. Bro. Walter Morgan, P. M. As this was the anniversary of the birth of our Queen, and the weather very warm, no work was performed. There was, however, work to be done in the second and third degrees. The Lodge was ~~closed~~ and closed in the three degrees. The work was fairly well done. The officers appear to be very well up. This is one of the strongest Lodges in the district. There are a great many enthusiastic P. M.'s in this Lodge who take a deep interest in it. The Lodge suffered in the recent fire very much more than the others in the city owing to having all their books destroyed. The Secretary, V. W. Bro. John Overell, is using every endeavor to have as much as possible of the books rewritten. He has been Secretary of this Lodge for many years and is an old and tried officer, efficient and capable. There was an abrupt termination of the Lodge after the closing of the second degree by an alarm of fire. The building in which the meeting was being held was found to be burning. The members, however, remained calm and composed until the Lodge was duly closed. The majority, however, remained until the fire was put out. A very pleasant time was spent. Prospects are very bright for this Lodge. I was pleased to find that this Lodge has been very liberal in donations for charitable purposes.

Malahide, No. 140: Visited Malahide Lodge, No. 140, 11th April. Accompanied by V. W. Bro. Esserv, Grand Junior Deacon; Bro. Thomas Chrysler, Junior Warden of Union Lodge, 380. There was a good attendance, including R. W. Bro. W. D. Rutherford, P. D. D. G. M., whom I was delighted to meet. All the officers were in their places. Wor. Bro. Cascaden, W. M., conferred the first degree on one candidate, in a very creditable manner. There was not much room for criticism. This Lodge is known throughout the district

for its work. It is the finest furnished Blue Room in the district; the equipments of the Lodge room and ante rooms are of the very best. Prospects for the Lodge are bright; the dues are well paid up; harmony prevails and the members are all enthusiastic. The hospitality of the members of this Lodge is unbounded. The books are neat and well kept by Wor. Bro. Burdick.

St. John's No. 209a: Visited this Lodge April 20th, 1900. There was a large attendance of members and visitors from outside places, as well as from the City Lodges. The W. M. was unavoidably absent, also the J. D. and Master of Ceremonies. All the others were, however, in their places. The third degree was conferred upon one candidate by Wor. Bro. A. W. White, the I. P. M., as I could judge, in a very impressive and correct manner, but owing to the recent disastrous fire the work could not be as well put on as would have been the case had the Lodge its paraphernalia, and done in a larger room. The number of members is 189; the amount of arrears is \$278.25. This is the largest Lodge in the district. All the members appear to be enthusiastic. Wor. Bro. Rowat is a very efficient and capable Secretary. The books are well kept and in good order. Prospects good.

Doric Lodge, No. 289, Lobo Village: This Lodge was visited by me on 12th April, 1900. I was accompanied by Wor. Bros. N. McNeill, Stephen Grant and Bro. Noble, of Union Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Wallace, of Nilestown; Bro. Cox, of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64. Wor. Bro. (Rev.) Lindsay, W. M., and his officers were in their places, except the S. D. and I. G. As there was no work on I requested the W. M. to open and close the Lodge in the several degrees, which was very well done. The W. M. has his work well up. There were more questions asked me officially in this Lodge than any Lodge I have visited yet. The W. M. is leaving the locality, which is very much regretted by all the members. He is an earnest and enthusiastic Mason. Prospects are only fair, no work having been done for over a year. Wor. Bro. Dr. Graham makes a very good Secretary. The books are very neat. Not many of the members are in arrears.

Bryanston, No. 379: Visited officially, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Essery; Wor. Bro. Galpin, of 378, and

Wor. Bro. Grant, of Union 380. There were also present a large number of visitors from neighboring lodges. The W. M. and all subordinate officers were in their places. As there was no work on, the W. M. opened in the three degrees, which was very well done. There was no room for criticism. I have visited the Lodge on three or four different occasions previously but not officially, and I am delighted to notice the marked progress made by the officers. This is a small Lodge and the members live many miles away. In this Lodge, as well as many other rural lodges, there are made a number of Masons, but they move away, and consequently it is very hard to keep up a large membership. The prospects are only fair. Wor. Bro. Smibert is a very good Secretary, as far as keeping the books is concerned, but I find a good many members in arrears.

St. George, No. 42: Visited 6th December, 1899. Annual meeting and election of officers. A large number of visiting P. M.'s and brethren, including three P. D. D. G. M.'s. Thirty-seven members present; not one member a year in arrears, which reflects credit upon V. W. Bro. Ellis, the very efficient and painstaking Secretary. No work on, but the W. M. opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. The officers and the work very well, with the exception of the W. M., who appeared a little nervous. The prospects are fair. The W. M. promised to confer a degree on some future occasion for me.

King Solomon, No. 378: Visited this Lodge. There was a large number of visitors present. The attendance of members was good, as is usually the case. The W. M., Wor. Bro. John Kelly, was in his place, likewise all the other officers. There was a candidate ready to be initiated, but he was called away to attend some important business, so could not be there, consequently no work was done. However, the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The subordinate officers have their work well up, but the W. M. appeared to be mixed in some parts. It may have been caused by reason of the presence of so many distinguished visitors. He is, however, a very enthusiastic Mason, looks well after the interests of the Lodge, and makes a good presiding officer. The Secretary, Wm. Nicholl, is a very fair officer. The dues are only fairly paid; a number of mem-

bers being in arrears. This Lodge is blessed with a large number of enthusiastic P. M.'s, who look after the interests of the Lodge. This is the Lodge to which R. W. Bro. John Simpson, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. E. T. Essery, G. J. D., belong.

Belmont Lodge, No. 190: Visited this Lodgs, accompanied by fourteen Past Masters, Past Masters of the City Lodges. There was a good attendance of members, as well as a large number of visitors from surrounding Lodges. The present Master is R. Wor. Bro. Boyd, who was in his place. Some of the junior officers were absent. The first degree was conferred on one candidate, and was fairly well done. The W. M. has not entirely given up the use of the old work. Some of that intermingled with the present work caused more or less confusion. I recommend the discontinuance of this and a close adherence to the present authorized work of Grand Lodge, as it might have a very bad effect on the junior officers of the Lodge, and a bad object lesson to the younger members of the Lodge. R. Wor. Bro. Boyd has always proved himself to be a very enthusiastic Mason, and a close and regular attendant. This Lodge owns a very nice Lodge room, well furnished and insured. The prospects are good, peace and harmony prevailing. Dues are well paid up. Wor. Bro. McMillan makes an efficient and careful Secretary.

St. David's Lodge, No. 302, St. Thomas: Visited this lodge May 11, accompanied by R.W.Bro. Simpson, V.W. Bro. E. T. Essery, G. J. D., V. W. Bro. John Hammond, Wor. Bro. A. C. McWhinney, Wor. Bro. Murray, and Bro. Ed. Flock. There was a very large number of members and visitors present. The first degree was conferred by Wor. Bro. Ingram on one candidate. The work was well rendered; it was almost perfect. All the junior officers did their work in a very careful manner. The J. W. gave the lecture in a very impressive manner. I took pleasure in congratulating the W. M. and his officers on the way the work was done. The Lodge room and ante-rooms are well kept and furnished nicely, and insured, and compare with any in the district. The Secretary, Bro. Lewis, is a very enthusiastic Mason. The books are splendidly kept. The dues by his close attention are well paid. There are very few in arrears. Prospects are very encouraging.

Union Lodge, 380: Visited my mother lodge Feb. 12; was well received. All officers except the Inner Guard were in their places. The first degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. Hillier in a fair manner. The W. M. appeared somewhat nervous, which no doubt accounted for his few errors, as I believe him to have the work well up. The other officers supported the W. M. in a satisfactory manner. I had the honor of presenting the I. P. M. with a beautiful jewel, when he immediately presented me with a handsome umbrella, gold-mounted, the gift of some of my personal friends in the Lodge. Prospects good. The financial statement was presented in writing, which showed the Lodge to be financially in the best condition since its inception. The Lodge also is noted for being charitable, having paid out last year \$80 for its widows. Not very many in arrears for dues and the books well kept and in order by Bro. Ward, the worthy Secretary. There were a large number of visitors present.

Warren Lodge, 120, Fingal: Visited this lodge Feb. 13, accompanied by V. Wor. Bro. O. J. Bridle. Wor. Bro. Else and officers were in their places. There was no work on. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees in a perfect manner; no room for criticism. Attendance fair. Prospects fair. Members well paid up; books in good shape and well kept. Spent an exceedingly enjoyable evening with this Lodge. Arrangements were made to hold a concert; proceeds to go to the Patriotic Fund.

Cameron Lodge, No. 232, Dutton: Visited this Lodge Feb. 14, accompanied by V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle, Wor. Bro. Blanchard, Bro. Davidson, and Wor. Bro. Wallace, all of London. Wor. Bro. Balkwell and all junior officers in their places. There were a large number of visitors from surrounding Lodges and Erie District. The first degree was given by R. Wor. Bro. Cascaden on one candidate very impressively, but not correctly. W. M. Balkwell conferred the first degree on another candidate in a very correct and able manner. No fault could be found with his work. The majority of the other officers had their work very satisfactorily, and the rest with the instruction given, in the future will, no doubt, do better. Prospects are very good; no arrears.

Books are well kept by Bro. Kirkland, the efficient Secretary.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 04, Port Stanley: Visited this Lodge, March 13th, 1900, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Bridle and Bro. Tapp, of Munroe Lodge. The W. M. and S. W. were absent. The I. P. M., Wor. Bro. Farr, conferred the second degree with the officers in a very correct and impressive manner. The candidate was well posted. Prospects good. Was delighted to hear that this Lodge is out of debt, the first time in twenty-five years. Bro. Whiting is a first-class Secretary.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 195: Visited this lodge, March 5th, 1900, with V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle and other visitors in the rooms of Corinthian Lodge. Wor. Bro. J. M. McWhinney, assisted by Wor. Bro. A. G. McWhinney and officers, exemplified the third degree in a very efficient manner to my satisfaction. The Lodge is prospering and prospects are good. R. Wor. Bro. Brodrick is a very efficient Secretary. Only \$40 in arrears for dues.

Visited Moffat Lodge, No. 399, Harrietsville, and was accompanied by V. W. Bro. Bridle and Wor. Bros. Galpin and Wallace. There was a large number of members and visitors. No work on, but Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, which was done in a very correct manner. Found plenty of ability. Delighted to meet R. W. Bro. Boyd, of Belmont Lodge. Wor. Bro. O'Neil is a very good Secretary. Prospects good. Two applications in.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 330: Visited 6th Feb., 1900. There was a great number of visitors present from Toronto, Petrolea, and other places. The third degree was conferred on two candidates by the W. M. and officers in a most efficient, correct and careful manner, assisted by Wor. Bro. Metherell. Every officer was in his place and filled it satisfactorily. Had the pleasure of presenting Wor. Bro. Blanchard, the I. P. M., with a beautiful Past Master's Jewel. V. Wor. Bro. Simpson keeps the books in good order. Very many of the members are in arrears, but it is partly accounted for by some being soldiers in the Klondike. So many of the Past Masters are enthusiastic that the Lodge is bound to be prosperous.

Merrill Lodge, No. 344, Dorchester Station: Visited Feb. 8th, 1900, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Bridle and V. W. Bro. P. Toll and Wor. Bro. Galpin, and Wor. Bro. Wallace, London. There was no work. The first degree was exemplified in a very correct and impressive manner. I could not help but speak in the highest terms of the officers. This is the only Lodge where there is any discord, but I think that an amicable settlement will be made very soon. Prospects fair.

St. Paul's, No. 107, Lambeth: Visited this Lodge on Dec. 13th, 1899. There was a very large attendance of P. M.'s and members, besides fourteen visitors. First degree was conferred on one candidate. The work was well done and all the officers took their parts well. The lecture given was delivered by the J. W., Bro. Aaron, very satisfactorily. I congratulate the Lodge on having such an efficient staff of officers. The books are kept neatly by Bro. Poole, the valued Secretary, who looks well after dues. P. D. D. G. M. B. Burtch is a member of this Lodge; he is fifty years a Mason. P. M. V. W. Bro. E. T. Essery, Wor. Bros. McNeill, Norton, Wallace, Bennett and Oliver accompanied me.

St. Thomas, No. 44, St. Thomas: My first official visit was to this Lodge, Oct. 5th, 1899, accompanied by V. W. Bro. Bridle, of Union 380, and V. W. Bro. P. Toll, Wor. Bro. Metherrall, Wor. Bro. Symonds and Wor. Bro. Blanchard and Bro. Childs, of Corinthian 330. All the officers were in their places and exemplified the third degree in a correct and very impressive manner. Wor. Bro. Hy. Roe, the W. M., is especially to be complimented upon the way he did the work; also Wor. Bro. Wickett, the I. P. M., who assisted him. The outlook of this Lodge is very bright. The attendance, I am assured, is large, and harmony prevails. The financial standing is good and very few of the members are in arrears. The books are kept in a very neat manner and R. Wor. Bro. Slater is an efficient Secretary. I had the pleasure of meeting R. Wor. Bro. Mooney, P. D. D. G. M., of Stratford; Bro. Robert Cotterell, Belleville; Wor. Bro. F. Guest, Sheddon, and twenty other visitors.

King Solomon, No. 394, Thamesford: Visited this Lodge Oct. 18th, 1899, accompanied by V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle and Bro. Davidson, of Union Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Wallace, and Bro. R. Reid, of Nilestown Lodge,

and Wor. Bros. Durand and Sharp, of Dorchester Lodges. All the officers were in their places except the J. W. and Secretary, who were absent by reason of sickness and death. The first degree was conferred by Wor. Bro. Smith in a faultless manner. The members of the Lodge are to be congratulated upon such a painstaking and enthusiastic officer as the present W. M. This Lodge has a hall and furnishings fit for Masonic work second to none in the district; \$1500 insurance. Prospects fair; only two or three members in arrears. Eight P. M.'s of this Lodge were present.

Mt. Olivet, 300, Torndale: Visited this Lodge Oct. 17th, 1899, accompanied by Wor. Bro. J. G. McNee, of King Solomon Lodge, No. 394; Wor. Bros. W. M. Ryan, Ed. Gardiner and the officers of Union Lodge, London. I was received cordially by Wor. Bro. Richard Fitzgerald. The officers of the Lodge, assisted by Wor. Bro. Richard Guest, conferred the second degree in a very creditable manner. The W. M. and officers of Union Lodge conferred the third degree, for which they received the congratulations from the members of Mt. Olivet Lodge for their accurate and efficient work. There was a fair attendance. The finances are in good shape. The Lodge owns the hall and the adjoining lot and money in the bank at interest, and \$600 insurance on the building. Only one member in arrears. Wor. Bro. M. N. Wright is a very efficient and capable officer and deserves praise for his neat bookkeeping. Prospects are bright for this Lodge.

Henderson, No. 388, Ilderton: Visited on Nov. 13, 1899. Seventeen members were present. I was accompanied by Wor. Bro. Stephen Grant, Bro. J. B. Cox, of Kilwinning, No. 64, and a large number of visitors from Middlesex and Doric Lodges. The second degree was given one candidate by the W. M., Bro. Martin, in a very careful and creditable manner. All the officers were present. The S. W., Bro. Ironsides, gave the lecture of the first degree and the lecture in the second degree, both of which were rendered in a correct and impressive manner. A number of P. M.'s were present. Harmony prevails; prospects good. This is the Lodge P. D: D. G. M. Capt. T. E. Robson is a member of, but owing to previous engagement was not there. Was gratified to find the dues well paid up; only five 12 months in

arrears. Books neatly and well kept by Bro. Peter Bowey, the efficient Secretary.

Nilestown Lodge, No. 345, Nilestown, Ont.: Visited this Lodge 14th Nov., 1899. There were twenty-seven members present, including eight P. M.'s. I was accompanied by W. Bro. Galpin, of 378; Bros. John Lawson, Davidson and Doe, of 380. I was heartily and enthusiastically received by the W. M. and members. There were also a large number of brethren from Belmont and Merrill Lodges, and 209a, London. There were no candidates present, but the W. M. exemplified the first degree on a substitute, and the Lodge took the form of a Lodge of Instruction, and criticisms and remarks were made as the work progressed, which was appreciated by the officers and members, as well as the visitors, and I think the evening was a very profitable one for all. The lecture was given by the J. W., Bro. Read, in a very able manner. The W. M. and the two Wardens appear to have the work well in hand. The Lodge was also opened and closed in the three degrees. The Lodge has an ideal Secretary in the person of Bro. McDougall. Dues are well paid up; only five twelve months in arrears. A happier and a more harmonious lot of brethren is not anywhere else to be found.

St. John's, No. 20: Visited this Lodge on June 12, 1900. This is the oldest, one of the strongest and the wealthiest in the district. There was a very large number of visitors present. Many were from the Military Camp, which was being held in London at this time. There were no less than six P. D. D. G. M.'s present. Wor. Bro. Bayly and his officers conferred the second degree, and as far as I could understand, in a very careful and impressive manner. Not being the regular work, I am not in a position to give a clear opinion on the rendition of it. This is one of the Lodges which Grand Lodge has permitted to do work outside the authorized work. The Lodge is prosperous, harmony prevails, and the officers appear to take a deep interest in its welfare. Dues fairly well paid up. Wor. Bro. (Col.) Dawson is a very careful and efficient Secretary.

In conclusion, I take the opportunity to place on record my obligation to the many brethren, not only of my own lodge, but throughout the district, who have accompanied me on my official visits, and for the kindness

and support which I have received from them. Wherever I have gone I was received with the greatest respect and consideration.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEO. F MORRIS,
D. D. G. M. London District, No. 3.

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In submitting my report of South Huron District No. 4, I can assure you it has been a pleasing duty to act in the honorable position to which I was unanimously elected at Grand Lodge in the City of Ottawa last July. I desire to express my gratification for the honor conferred and for the pleasure I have enjoyed and the kindness and courtesy shown me during my official term. I have endeavored to perform the duties of that high office to the best of my ability, and if I have failed in the discharge of any of my Masonic duties, I ask the brethren to give me the benefit of their Masonic charity, as I have tried to do my best in the interest of the Craft in general and this district in particular.

I have visited each Lodge in the district once, and I have no hesitation in saying that the condition of Masonry in this district is a favorable one. Harmony prevails throughout the entire district. Not one complaint has been made during the year, for which I am very thankful.

During my term of office the following deaths have been reported to me, viz. :

R. W. Bro. R. H. Collins, P. D. D. G. M. of South Huron District, a member of Lebanon Forest, No. 133, Galt.

Robert Scott Dickson, Maitland Lodge No. 33, Goderich.

Malcolm M. Campbell, a member of Yondota Lodge, No. 572, Toledo, Ohio; buried with Masonic honors by the members of Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich.

I granted dispensations to Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell, to attend Divine Service as Masons on Sunday, June 24th, and to Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich, for the same purpose.

Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensal: On the 28th of March, accompanied by a number of brethren from Britannia Lodge, Seaforth, I visited this Lodge. There was a large attendance of the members and a number of visitors from Exeter. The officers are very enthusiastic, and are infusing life and work in the Lodge which is bringing prosperity. This Lodge is in a very prosperous condition. A large amount of work has been done during the year, and the meetings are well attended. The hall is new, and during the past year has been neatly furnished. The work in hand was two initiations, which was well done by the W. M. and officers. Wor. Bro. Cook is a very impressive worker. Too much praise cannot be given to the W. M. of this Lodge for the high state of perfection to which he has brought the work. This Lodge has increased its membership during the year by twenty-one.

Doric Lodge, No. 233, Parkhill: I made my official visit to this Lodge on the 13th of March and was received right royally by a good gathering of brethren. I had the pleasure of renewing my acquaintance with R. W. Bro. Dawson, P. D. D. G. M., and I am pleased to report that he has not lost interest in Masonry. The work of the evening was the third degree, which was done in a manner creditable to the officers. Wor. Bro. Roberts is a good worker, and is well supported by his officers. Bro. Hutchins is the right man in the right place. His books are a model of neatness.

Clinton Lodge, No. 84, Clinton: I visited this Lodge on the 20th of October and was hospitably received by the brethren, who are whole-souled Masons. This is one of the best Lodges in the district. The W. M., Wor. Bro. W. D. Fair, exemplified the first degree and opened and closed in the three degrees in a faultless manner. Too much credit cannot be bestowed upon the officers of this lodge, as their work gave evidence of careful preparation. R. W. Bro. Dr. Shaw was present, and is a great help to the Lodge. The Secretary, W. P. Spalding, is a model officer.

Lebanon Forest, No. 133, Exeter: I visited this Lodge April 9. A large attendance of members were present; also a number of visiting brethren from Seaforth and Hensal. Everything went off in a delightful manner, to the credit of the W. M. and officers. The

membership is of the best, and the Lodge well officered from the W. M. down. Wor. Bro. Stewart raised a candidate to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The work was excellent.

Blyth Lodge, No. 303, Blyth: I visited this Lodge April 9th. Owing to the inclemency of the weather, there was a very small attendance. So far this year no active work has been done. The W. M., R. W. Bro. Tierney, exemplified the first degree in a splendid manner. I found all the officers capable of discharging their duties.

Morning Star, No. 309, Smith's Hill: I visited this Lodge on the 11th of June, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Beck, Wor. Bro. Tye and seven of the brethren from Maitland Lodge, Goderich, and was pleased to find such a good attendance, all the officers being present. Two candidates were initiated. Wor. Bro. Young is a credit to his Lodge, and by the continuance of the enthusiasm displayed by the officers this Lodge is bound to prosper. P. M. Wor. Bro. Munroe delivered the lecture in the South and the charge to the newly-initiated candidates in a manner that was appreciated by the brethren present. Morning Star is all right.

Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell: I visited this Lodge at a regular meeting in February. There was a good attendance of the brethren. The W. M. lives a distance of eleven miles from the Lodge, and drove through a blinding storm to be present to assist in doing honor to the representative of M. W. the Grand Master. This Lodge is in good condition, and I believe a great amount of credit is due to Wor. Bro. Elliot, one of Tudor's able Past Masters. Two candidates being balloted for and accepted, the W. M., Wor. Bro. Merryfield, conferred the E. A. degree on one candidate. While R. W. Bro. White, P. D. D. G. M., conferred the degree on Candidate No. 2, and both did the work in a very creditable manner. The W. M. is ably supported by a staff of first-class officers. Bro. Mooney, the S. W., delivered the lecture in the South in a very impressive manner. Bro. May, the Secretary, does his work well. After labor we repaired to the banqueting room, where a very pleasant hour was spent. My visit to Tudor was a pleasant one.

Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden: I visited this Lodge

at the regular meeting in January. There was a very good turnout of the members and a large number of visitors from Hamburg. No work being on, I requested the W. M. to open and close in the three degrees. The work was not done as well as I expected. This, I believe, was owing to sickness in the home of Wor. Bro. Heldman, who could not spare time to devote to Lodge work. This is the home of V. W. Bro. Hollaway, who is a very enthusiastic Mason and regular in his attendance at the stated meetings of the Lodge. The Secretary keeps his books in good order.

Stratford, No. 332, Stratford: I visited this Lodge on the 12th of March. There was a very large attendance of members and visiting brethren. A brother was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. I was very much pleased with the perfect manner of the examination and the proof of the brother's proficiency in the former degrees. Wor. Bro. Cassels did the work in a remarkably able style, and to my gratification the Wardens and other officers proved themselves well skilled. A great aid to the impressiveness of the ceremony was the service rendered by the first-class choir of the lodge. This Lodge is in a flourishing condition, having increased its membership thirteen during the year. Stratford Lodge is very popular with the brethren throughout Ontario. The Secretary informs me that the average attendance of visitors during the year was 16. Since my official visit this Lodge celebrated the 25th anniversary. I regret very much that I was unable to be present on that occasion. The celebration, I understand, was a grand success in every respect.

Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan: On the 12th of April I made my official visit to this Lodge. There was no work, but the Lodge is in good condition and the members are very enthusiastic. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Ferguson, assisted by his officers, opened and closed in the three degrees. The work was not done as correctly as I expected to see it, and after pointing out the mistakes made I requested the officers to go over the work again, which they did in a most excellent manner. In speaking of Wor. Bro. Ferguson, I might add that he is a very enthusiastic Mason, and the Lodge cannot fail to prosper under his guidance. From him, as well as the members of the Lodge, I received every kindness and

attention. Bro. Matheson, the Secretary, does his work well.

New Dominion, No. 205, New Hamburg: Accompanied by V. W. Bro. Ballantine, I visited this Lodge on Feb. 19th. There was a fair turnout of the brethren. This Lodge has some very enthusiastic Past Masters, and I must mention in particular Wor. Bro. Holley, who is present at every meeting. Here I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Aylesworth, P. D. D. G. M. of Wilson District. Wor. Bro. Kerr conferred the E. A. degree on a candidate, the work being very well done. The Secretary's books are neatly kept. After the Lodge closed we repaired to the Queen's Hotel, where I was kindly entertained at the festive board by the brethren, whose hospitality is unbounded.

Tecumseh, No. 144, Stratford: I visited this Lodge on the 12th of May and was royally and enthusiastically received by the W. M. and brethren. There was a very large gathering on this occasion. The visitors included Worshipful and distinguished brethren from Toronto, Mitchell and other points, and the interchange of Masonic sentiment was entertaining, indeed. Wor. Bro. Malcolm, the W. M., is a skilled worker, and is held in high esteem by his brethren and fellows. The large turnout of P. M.'s convinced me that the W. M. had the hearty co-operation of all. R. W. Bro. Mooney, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. J. Russell Stewart, Grand Junior Warden, are members of this Lodge, and the sterling worth of these brethren is appreciated by the members of Old Tecumseh. A candidate was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The work was of a high order, and the Lodge is to be congratulated upon its staff of officers.

Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich: I visited this Lodge on March the 27th, at an emergency meeting, which they were kind enough to call for me. There was a very large attendance of the members and a number of visitors. On the dais were a number of distinguished and Worshipful brethren, so that I could not wonder the W. M. was a little nervous. Wor. Bro. Tye presides in the East, and is ably supported by a staff of first-class officers. A candidate was passed to the second degree, the work being very well done. After the closing a very pleasant hour was spent, and all separ-

ated, "happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's: I visited this Lodge on the 6th of March. A fair attendance of members were on hand, but not as many as I expected to see. I am pleased to be able to report that the work done by this Lodge was a decided improvement on last year. Wor. Bro. Constable worked a third degree. The work was very ably performed, and the Wardens and other officers did their work in a very creditable manner. While I found it necessary to make some kind criticism, I am pleased to say my remarks were received in a truly Masonic spirit. This Lodge will soon rank amongst the first-class Lodges in the district. Bro. Carman, the Secretary, is a first-class officer.

Britannia, No. 170, Seaforth: This being my Mother Lodge, I have had every opportunity of seeing the work and I feel a pardonable pride in the fact that I have been present at every meeting, with only one exception, since my initiation. I visited this Lodge officially on the 7th of May, and was tendered a very kind and enthusiastic reception by a large attendance of both members of the Lodge and visiting brethren. I was well satisfied with the work of Wor. Bro. Dodds and his officers and I can only reiterate what my predecessors have already said, that the work in this Lodge is well done. This Lodge is in a very prosperous condition, there being only one member twelve months in arrears.

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to the officers and members of the Lodges throughout the district for the uniform courtesy and fraternal feeling extended to me during my term of office, and I can assure them that the many pleasant and instructive hours spent with the brethren of South Huron District will be treasured up in my remembrance, and I shall always look back with pleasure to the year in which I held the office of D. D. G. M. of the district. And I trust that whoever my successor shall be, that the same kind consideration will be extended to him that I have received at their hands.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. H. REID,

D. D. G. M., South Huron District, No. 4.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in South Huron District, No 4, from June 84th, 1899, to June 94th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.			Degree's confd			Sustentions, N. P. D.	Sustentions, other causes.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
302	M'n'g Star	Smith's Hill...	87	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	3	16	18	\$31 00	4	\$ 150 00	June 1899	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$1,000
325	New Dom.	New Hamburg	51	3	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	4	13	15	15 0	4	55 00	Feb. 1899	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300
154	Irving	Lucan	50	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	3 00	17	55 00	Dec. 1899	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300
170	Prudens	Seaford	50	6	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	34 35	6	87 00	Feb. 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	500
181	Tutor	Michell	50	6	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	3 00	17	80 00	Dec. 1899	Good.	Excellent	No	450
183	Leo. Forest	Krieger	40	7	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	15 00	15	126 00	Dec. 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	1,500
184	Reunited	Stratford	112	10	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	33 00	21	71 43	June, 1899	V Good	Excellent	Yes	300
185	St. James	St. Mary's	66	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
323	Stratford	Stratford	152	13	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
326	Doric	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
328	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
324	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
325	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
326	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
327	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
328	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
329	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
330	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
331	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
332	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
333	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
334	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
335	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
336	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
337	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
338	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
339	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
340	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
341	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
342	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
343	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
344	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
345	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
346	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
347	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
348	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
349	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300
350	Windsor	Stratford	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	3	16	18	10 00	15	71 43	June, 1899	Good.	Excellent	Yes	300

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in this District. I desire, in the first place, to thank the brethren for the honor they conferred in electing me to the office of D. D. G. M. in North Huron District. I have visited every Lodge and desire to acknowledge the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to me by all the officers and members. I was highly pleased with the harmony and Masonic spirit everywhere displayed. I am happy to state that I have not been called upon to consider a single grievance.

I certainly expected to find this harmonious relation, and I was not disappointed. I congratulate the brethren of this important district upon their strict observance of this truly Masonic virtue; for without harmony those cardinal landmarks, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, would exist but in name.

I also wish to thank the officers of every Lodge in the district for their ready acceptance of the time specified for my official visits. In every case (with one exception, when a good reason was offered) the time fixed was accepted, and no excuses were offered for postponement. This to me was a very gratifying feature indeed. I found the officers throughout the district very efficient, able and capable men, highly qualified for the important duties of their several offices. It was gratifying to note the fidelity and loyalty of the members in all the Lodges to the officers appointed to preside over them.

I found the Lodge rooms throughout, spacious, comfortable and well kept. Several of the lodges own their own buildings. The Lodges are held separately from

any other Orders, with but one or two exceptions, and these informed me that they would soon meet in their own Lodge rooms.

I am happy to report that I have not been called upon to attend a Masonic funeral during the year. I have not granted any dispensations. The traveling expences were promptly provided, in every case, by the different Lodges.

Kincardine, December 6th, 1899.—Northern Light Lodge, No. 93, was officially visited by me on the above date, when we had a very large attendance of members and visitors. It was a very pleasant visit to me, as this was my Mother Lodge. It was my good fortune to have M. W. Bro. William Gibson, P. G. M., of Beamsville, and R. W. Reid, P. D. D. G. M., of Hamilton, with me on the occasion. I was also pleased to meet several members in attendance who were members when I was admitted in 1867. Among the number I might mention R. W. Bro. Martyn, V. W. Bro. McPherson, Bros. Baird and Sellery, and these brethren have been in continuous membership ever since that time. W. Bro. Scott presided and the officers were elected. The election was conducted by P. G. M. Wm. Gibson. The officers were selected with great care, and as they are well skilled, the prospects for a successful year are most encouraging. The record of Northern Light Lodge is an important chapter in the history of Masonry in this district. The career of this Lodge has been successful from its inception, its membership has been large, its work has been admired, and its Masonic charity is worthy of all emulation. I wish for it continued and greater success. After the Lodge adjourned the brethren were invited to a magnificent banquet in their spacious refreshment parlor. About one hundred and twenty-five were present. A high class entertainment was provided and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent.

Wroxeter, December 13th, 1899: Forest Lodge was next visited. This Lodge has been established for many years and the officers have been noted for their skill and Masonic spirit. The membership is not large, nevertheless the members are quite enthusiastic and in earnest. They perform the work remarkably well and the

evening I spent there was a very pleasant one indeed. The W. M. exemplified the work in the first degree and was ably assisted by W. Bro. Barnard. The Rev. Bro. Farney, who is a member of this Lodge, gave a very pleasing address. After the Lodge was adjourned supper was provided and an evening of social enjoyment followed.

Fordwich, December 14th, 1899.—Fordwich Lodge, No. 331: I found this Lodge in a very satisfactory condition. They are nicely located and have a Lodge room that is very creditable to them. The work that was performed was very well done. The evening was a very pleasant one, and I have kindly recollections of Fordwich Lodge, although I had not the pleasure of the acquaintance of a single member of it before my visit.

Teeswater, December 15th, 1899.—Teeswater Lodge, No. 276: The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees by the W.M. and his officers. The members appeared to take quite an interest in the work and performed it very properly. After the adjournment a magnificent banquet was served and quite a number attended. The evening was one long to be remembered.

Chesley, January 9th, 1900.—Forest Lodge, No. 393: I met a fair representation at this Lodge and had the pleasure of seeing the first degree exemplified. The work was done in a very satisfactory manner. The Master and his officers performed their duties well. W. Bros. Mickle and Stewart rendered able assistance. Altogether this Lodge is doing well and I expect to hear of increased prosperity in it.

Hepworth, January 11th, 1900.—Burns Lodge No. 436: This Lodge has been established only a few years, but has made wonderful progress. The Brethren are very enthusiastic and manifest a great delight in the Order. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Walmsley and V. W. Bro. Witthun, of Wiarton, on this occasion. W. Bro. A. E. Campbell, W. Bro. D. Campbell and Bro. Murphy were also present. After the Lodge adjourned, a sumptuous banquet was served, of which a large number partook.

Warton, January 12, 1900.—Cedar Lodge, No. 396: I had the pleasure of meeting a large number of the brethren and many visitors from Burns and other

Lodges. The work of the first degree was exemplified by the Master and his officers in a very satisfactory manner. This Lodge has had a very prosperous career, which it still retains. The members appear to take a deep interest in everything pertaining to Masonry. Whatever they undertake is well done. I had the pleasure of listening to some very good speeches in the Lodge. After the Lodge adjourned a splendid banquet was held, which reflected great credit upon the Order.

Tara, January 15th, 1900.—Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 362: I had the satisfaction on the occasion of my visit of meeting a large number of the brethren and some visitors. Tara is the home of two P. D. D. G. M.'s—Bros. Dr. Wilson and Robert Bruce—both of whom are worthy Masons and have rendered great service to the Order. The work of the Lodge was well performed. After adjournment a splendid banquet was served and many able speeches delivered.

Eden Grove, January 16th, 1900.—Moravian Lodge, No. 431: I had the honor of meeting about 50 brethren and visitors on the occasion of my visit to this lodge and was highly pleased with the good feeling and good fellowship that prevailed. The occasion was cheered by a large delegation from Saugeen and Aldworth Lodges. This Lodge is in a very prosperous condition and exemplifies both the work and spirit of Freemasonry. The officers are well skilled and the attendance is very constant, although many of the members reside at quite a distance from the Lodge room. R. W. Bro. Pinkerton, W. Bro. Dr. Morison, W. Bro. Chittick and Bro. Henry Cargill, M. P., were present. After the adjournment the members of the Lodge sat down to a most recherche banquet, provided by Mr. John Connors. Bro. Wm. Trimble, who was initiated into this Lodge but a short time ago, is deserving of special mention for his zeal on behalf of the Order and for the efficient manner in which he acts as Secretary.

Paisley, January 17th, 1900.—Aldworth Lodge, No. 235: My visit to this Lodge was a very pleasant one. Quite a number were present and the proceedings were very enjoyable. The work done was performed in an efficient manner. The officers are painstaking in their work and the members give them a hearty support. The

Rev. Bro. Bloodsworth gave us a pleasing address, which was much appreciated. W. Bro. Dr. McLaren did likewise. After the adjournment the brethren were entertained at a banquet and a very pleasant hour was spent.

Port Elgin, January 18th, 1900.—Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429: I found a very nice Lodge room here and quite a number in attendance. I had an opportunity of observing their work, which was skilfully performed. W. Bro. John George, Bros. William George, Ridout and Hilker and some others gave short and pleasing addresses. This Lodge has quite a number of enthusiastic Masons and has a bright future before it.

Southampton, January 19th, 1900.—Saint Lawrence Lodge, No. 131: This is the second oldest Lodge in the district and is in a very flourishing condition. I was greeted by a large attendance of members and visitors from neighboring Lodges. A candidate was initiated on the occasion of my visit and all the brethren present seemed to be sensibly impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony. This Lodge owns its building. After the adjournment about sixty sat down to a banquet, at the conclusion of which a splendid program of music, songs and speeches was rendered. Bro. Prof. Maitland sang several patriotic songs, which were highly appreciated and rapturously encored. Bro. Dr. Black gave a couple of recitations, which were well received. Speeches were made by W. Bros. Bowman, M. P. P., W. Bro. Dundas and A. E. Campbell, Bro. Ridout, of Port Elgin; Bro. Henry Barltrop, of Hepworth, and many others. Certainly it was a red-letter day for Masonry.

Listowel, January 22nd, 1900.—Bernard Lodge, No. 225: I was favored with a large attendance on the occasion of my visit. This Lodge is very favorably located, has a splendid hall, rich furniture, and is thoroughly well equipped. I had the pleasure of witnessing several branches of the work exemplified, all of which was done in a truly Masonic manner and with great skill. R. W. Bro. D. D. Cambell was present and took part in the proceedings. After the adjournment supper was served and a social evening spent. Many of the brethren delivered good addresses and some splendid songs were sung. Rev. Bro. Moore gave an able ad-

dress on the spirit of Masonry, R. W. Bro. Campbell on the History of the Order, and Bros. Morphy, Brooks, J. W. Scott and others contributed materially to the evening's entertainment. I shall long remember with pleasure my visit to Bernard Lodge and the kindness I received from the W. M.

Walkerton, January 23, 1900.—Saugeen Lodge, No. 197: My official visit to this Lodge was very pleasant indeed. From the establishment of the Lodge and for many years afterwards, I had the honor of being a member of it, and on this occasion, my happiness was enhanced by meeting with a few of the members who belonged to Saugeen in its early history. It was therefore with special pleasure that I met W. Bro. O'Connor, Bro. Collins and Bro. W. A. McLean, who were members when I affiliated. This Lodge is in a very satisfactory condition, has a large membership and a good number of well-skilled officers and Past Masters. The W. M., although but newly installed, performed the duties in a very satisfactory manner and was ably assisted by all his officers. Quite a number of visitors were present. W. Bro. Scott, W. Bro. Collins and Bro. Utter, of Kincardine; W. Bro. Jermyn, of Wiarton, and W. Bro. Dr. Morison, of Pinkerton, kindly favored us. R. W. Bro. Goodear rendered us valuable assistance.

Brussels, January 24th, 1900.—St. John's Lodge, No. 184: I had a very pleasant visit to this Lodge. Found the officers well skilled and the work very well performed. Quite a number were present and a few visitors from Wroxeter cheered us with their presence. Some work was exemplified in proper form and reflected considerable credit on the various officers of the Lodge. The J. W. is deserving of special mention for his lecture.

Wingham, January 25, 1900.—Wingham Lodge, No. 286: The attendance at this Lodge was not very large. The Lodge room is very inviting, nicely located, handsomely furnished and well equipped throughout. Part of the third degree was exemplified in good form. The Master and his officers are well qualified for the duties. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Morton, W. Bro. Tamblyn and Rev. Bro. Lowe on this occasion, and was pleased with the kindly speeches they delivered.

Lucknow, January 26, 1900.—Old Light Lodge, No.

184: This is one of the pioneer Lodges of the district and has a very creditable Masonic history. I found quite a large attendance of members and visitors. The Master and officers were in their places. R. W. Bro. Tennant rendered us every assistance and I was also ably supported on the occasion by R. W. Bro. Martyn. I had the pleasure of witnessing some work exemplified in a truly Masonic manner. After the adjournment a sumptuous repast was provided and a pleasant evening enjoyed.

Tiverton, January 29, 1900.—Bruce Lodge, No. 341: There was quite a large attendance of members and visitors on the occasion of my visit to this Lodge. The brethren have a very nice Lodge room, well furnished and equipped, comfortable and commodious. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, after which several speeches were delivered on the principles and teachings of the Order. R.W. Bro. Martyn, V. W. Bro. McPherson, W. Bro. Scott and W. Bro. Collins were present, and another good brother, whose name I have forgotten, drove all the way from Lucknow to join us. I hope he will pardon me for forgetting his name. He is a member of the dental profession.

Hanover, June 15, 1900.—Hanover Lodge, No. 432: This Lodge was established five years ago and has now a membership of thirty-nine. It is in a very prosperous condition and the members of the Order are deeply attached to it. W. Bro. J. S. Knachtel is the presiding officer this year. Bro. J. Stone is S. W. and Bro. E. S. Cressman J. W. The officers are well qualified to discharge their duties and do so very efficiently. The P.M.'s render them every assistance and regularly attend. W. Bro. Sutherland has been the Secretary since the Lodge was established, and Bro. P. W. Mitchell Treasurer. W. Bro. J. Mitchell and W. Bro. Zinn are always ready for duty when required. The Lodge room is large, well furnished, well equipped and very convenient in every department. The brethren are enthusiastic and devoted to the Order, and I wish for them every success. I am proud to boast that I am a member of this Lodge.

Brethren of the district, in conclusion, let me thank you, heartily thank you, for all the kind acts, for all the cheering words of encouragement you gave me during the year. I wish for you all every happiness every

prosperity, and every earthly blessing that Providence can bestow. Let us all stand together in brotherly love; let us study the landmarks of our Ancient, Free and Accepted Order, and look for guidance to the Great Architect of the Universe in the firm assurance that He will crown our labors with abundant success.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

GEO. LANDERKIN, D. D. G. M.,

North Huron District, No. 5.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in North Huron District, No. 5, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's conf'd		Affiliations.	Restorations.	Investigations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief in arrears.	No of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	R. C.	M. M.						Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
93	Nthn Light	Kincardine.....	5	35	6	9	4	1	9	1	1	1	14	4	18	35	\$15 00	5	\$ 160 00	Jun. 25, 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$2,000
131	St. Lawrence	Souhampton.....	46	8	7	6	4	1	1	3	3	1	7	7	15	15	6 00	5	91 75	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	1,000
182	Forest	Wroster.....	27	16	7	9	2	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	10	10	6 00	5	91 75	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Fair.	Yes	900
184	Old Light	Waukegan.....	43	0	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	18	18	4 00	9	94 00	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	700
197	Saugen	Waukegan.....	55	7	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	214	184	35 00	19	60 00	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	400
215	Barnard	Waukegan.....	84	5	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	115	21	25 00	9	77 76	Jun. 24, 1900	Fair.	Fair.	No	800
235	Aldworth	Waukegan.....	38	1	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	8	20 06	3	61 50	Jun. 24, 1900	Good.	Fair.	No	Nil.
276	Teaswater	Teaswater.....	92	2	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	317	15	19 50	17	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	No debt.	Good.	Yes	300
281	St. John's	Brusela.....	59	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	319	13	19 50	8	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	Nil.
286	Fordwich	Wingham.....	43	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	13	19 50	8	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300
331	Bruce	Tiverton.....	35	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	319	13	19 50	8	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300
341	Maple Leaf	Tara.....	41	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	11	11	319	13	19 50	8	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300
383	Forest	Chesley.....	58	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	11	11	319	13	19 50	8	59 25	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300
396	Cedar	Waukegan.....	75	10	10	8	9	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	518	19	15 00	21	80 00	Jun. 25, 1900	Good.	Excellent.	Yes	400
431	Port Elgin	Port Elgin.....	41	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	11	11	415	15	5 00	1	41 00	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	800
439	Moravian	Eden Grove.....	48	3	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	317	15	20 00	7	50 50	Jun. 24, 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	150
432	Hanover	Hanover.....	39	5	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	12	416	30	30 00	1	30 00	Jan. 1, 1900	Fair.	Good.	Yes	300
436	Burns	Hepworth.....	30	6	7	4	5	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	114	13	30 00	1	40 00	June 24, 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	300

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report as D. D. G. M. of Wilson District, No. 6, I must first express my thanks for the very kind encouragement I have received from those who have filled the office before me and the other officers and past officers of Grand Lodge. When I started out on my work of visiting the Lodges I expected some criticism, and I have received only the kindest expressions of friendship, both in word and deed. And this from all—Masters, officers and members, and brethren whose age in years and as members of the Craft I can look up to with reverence, have endeavored to make my visits pleasant. One thing I have noticed is the better average attendance of the Lodges in the smaller places. There seems to be a tendency with some to pay particular attention to the social side of Lodge meetings and drop their interest in the regular work. This is most noticeable where candidates are more plentiful. It seems to me that the cause lies in the fact that candidates are rushed through the various degrees without insisting upon their learning thoroughly the necessary lessons and the O. B.'s. I think it should be impressed upon each Master the necessity of candidates being advanced strictly according to merit and ability. The refusal by a Worshipful Master to advance a candidate who had not thoroughly learned his lesson and O. B. would be looked upon favorably by all who have the best interest of the institution at heart. The necessity for the senior brethren to instruct the junior is an education any of us will profit by, and I feel certain that the brother who affords the instruction will be in his place to see how the lesson is rendered. Hence I think it would be wise for Masters to appoint different brethren for different candidates

to instruct them and not leave it too much in the hands of a few. The work properly learned by a candidate as he goes through tends to fit him for those positions in the lodge which it is honorable for every member to aspire to.

The work is flourishing throughout the District, as will be seen by the reports. Efforts have been put forward by some of the Lodges to induce the unaffiliated to resume their membership, but not much success has been met with. Business-like methods by efficient Secretaries are keeping down the number in arrears in almost every Lodge. The result is that the finances of each are in splendid shape, there being only one Lodge that has a debt, and the most have a substantial amount ahead.

I have granted dispensations to Scotland Lodge, No. 193, Scotland; St. John's, No. 104, Norwich; and Frederick, No. 217, Delhi, to appear in Masonic clothing at Divine Service.

Monday, Dec. 11th, I paid my first official visit. This was to Scotland Lodge, No. 193, when I installed their officers for the ensuing year. The evening was very stormy, which deterred many from getting out, although a fair number were present. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition, and at that time prospects for the year were particularly bright. Since then a couple of candidates for initiation have been rejected, which the W. M. fears may have been the result of malice. I feel that this impression will wear off and everything go on all right. The officers are able in their positions and take particular pride in doing their work correctly. A banquet after Lodge was closed was heartily enjoyed by the members, with visitors from Delhi and Waterford. Speeches, songs and music brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1899, I visited Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, Simcoe, and installed their officers. This is one of the very prosperous Lodges in the district. Harmony prevails, and all take an active interest, as is evidenced by the large average attendance. Just before the Lodge was closed W. Bro. Bottomley, the retiring Master, was presented with a handsome Past Master's Jewel as an evidence of the appreciation by the Lodge of his able

work during the past year. A grand banquet after the Lodge was over was the feature of the evening and was enjoyed by about one hundred brethren, with visitors from Delhi and Vittoria. Financially this Lodge is strong, although a few of the brethren are considerably in arrears. No fears need be entertained for the prosperity of Norfolk Lodge, as the brethren are particularly careful in their selection of officers, and with so many good men coming on who are competent to fill any position, and who are ready to do their share of the work, their choice is sure to be right. Then R. W. Bro. Atkinson, who retains his active interest, is generally on hand to encourage the officers and to guard the landmarks.

Wednesday, Jan. 10th, visited King Hiram, No. 78, Tilsonburg. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. McDonald and royally received by a large turnout of the brethren, and visitors from Delhi, Ingersoll, Vienna, and one from Indiana. The work of exemplifying the second degree was exceptionally well done. The officers are all young men and enthusiastic in the work. King Hiram Lodge I look upon as one of the best, if not the best in the district, and I noticed particularly the large proportion of young men. Still the older members take the same active interest that their juniors do, and can certainly pride themselves upon the fact that to their efforts in the past may be attributed the present position of the Lodge. There are a few of the members back considerably in their dues, but efforts are being made to get these to pay up. The social side of life is highly enjoyed by the members; so after the work of the Lodge a lunch in the Lodge room was enjoyed, after which a few speeches brought to a close a very successful meeting.

Thursday, January 11th, I visited Oak Branch Lodge, No. 261, Innerkip, and installed the officers. There was not a large number of the members out, as the evening was very stormy, although a load drove over from Woodstock, despite the weather. The Worshipful Master is a Church of England clergyman, and the other officers are active young men, all of whom were out, although some had to drive a long way. Good fellowship prevails among the brethren, as was evidenced at the supper that was given after the ceremony. The Lodge

is in fair shape financially, with very few arrears or dues. The Worshipful Master did the work of closing in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

Friday, Jan. 12, I visited Vittoria Lodge, No. 359, and installed their officers. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. Kennedy and well received by a large turnout of members and visitors from Simcoe and Port Dover and Pt. Rowan. Work in the second degree was fairly well done, although the officers got a trifle confused. However, I could see that they knew their work, but the occasion had affected the memory. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition. They own the building in which the Lodge room is situated, which is nearly all paid for. They have just completed many repairs to the building and are to be congratulated upon the fine appearance of the Lodge rooms. An oyster supper after Lodge supplied material for social enjoyment, where the harmony that exists was manifest in the pleasant words spoken.

Monday, March 12, I visited Erie Lodge, No. 149, Port Dover. I was well received by quite a large number of the brethren, with visitors from Vittoria. As there was no work on, the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. This was done in a manner that shows a thorough knowledge of our ceremonies. The officers are young men, energetic, and have the welfare of the principles of our fraternity at heart. Special mention must be made of the manner in which the Secretary, W. Bro. Varey, keeps the books of the Lodge. But I am sorry to say that many of the brethren are very much in arrears. I urged upon the Worshipful Master and the Secretary the necessity of endeavoring to get these to pay up, and was informed that the accounts had been placed in the hands of a committee for them to deal with. After the Lodge meeting a very nice lunch was heartily enjoyed. A few speeches brought to a close a very pleasant evening.

Tuesday, March 13th, I visited Oriental Lodge, No. 181, Port Burwell. I was well received by an average turnout of the members. The work for the evening was in the third degree, which was fairly well done by P. M. Bro. Burwell, the W. M. feeling diffident in the presence of strangers. I find that none of the officers have been properly instructed in the present work. This will probably be changed before this report reaches you.

Last year the Lodge lost everything they had by fire, although an insurance of \$400 has saved them from collapse. They now occupy a rented hall (they owned the building formerly occupied), which they have fitted up very nicely. The officers are mostly young men and are working enthusiastically in the interests of the Lodge. There are no members over one year in arrears, thanks to the care of W. Bro. Burwell, the efficient Secretary.

Wednesday, March 14, I visited Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, and was received by only a medium turnout of the members. Two candidates for initiation was the work for the evening. Past Master Bro. Ross initiated one fairly well and Past Master Bro. Bowlby the other splendidly. Wor. Bro. Clapp, the Master, has removed from the village and was not able to be present, hence the necessity for Past Masters doing the work. Wilson Lodge occupies one of the finest Lodge rooms in the district. In fact, we seldom see nicer outside the larger cities. The officers are all young men and do their work freely and correctly. This Lodge has almost completely recovered from the effects of the fire that visited it a few years ago, the last audit showing a substantial balance in cash on hand. They have a very few members in arrears and these are being got in shape. The Secretary is very particular in his work and his books are a pleasure to look over. A new set of by-laws have just been formulated, and the Chairman of the Committee is to be congratulated upon the product of the efforts of himself and his associates.

Thursday, March 15, I visited Walsingham Lodge, No. 194, Port Rowan. I was introduced by V. W. Bro. Biddle and well received by about an average turnout of the members. The evening was very cold and windy, which no doubt kept many at home. A candidate for the second degree not being out, there was no work. Opening and closing in the various degrees was very well done. This Lodge is well officered by active young men. A Church of England clergyman occupies the Junior Warden's chair and a Baptist minister the Junior Deacon's chair, so no doubt the members will continue to carry themselves as straight as they have in the past. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition, with but a very few who are too much in arrears.

Friday, March 16, I visited Vienna Lodge, No. 237, and was well received by a little above an average attendance. This was one of the coldest nights of the winter, which no doubt kept some away who lived at a distance in the country. Work in the second degree was exceptionally well done. I have seldom seen it better. The Lodge is getting along nicely. They now own the building in which the Lodge room is situated and have it all paid for except some \$40 or \$50. There are quite a few of the members too much in arrears, but I notice by their minutes that they have a committee newly appointed for the purpose of endeavoring to get these to pay up. If this be accomplished it will put them out of debt. After Lodge a lunch was enjoyed, and the few speeches that followed showed the harmony that exists and the enthusiasm of the officers in the interests of the Lodge.

Wednesday, March 21st, I visited St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. McCurdy and well received by a good number of the members, with visitors from Delhi and one from Wisconsin. As there was no work on, opening and closing in the three degrees was done in a very creditable manner. The officers are young men and take pride in doing the work well. This Lodge is very comfortably situated, having a splendid room with good large ante-rooms and another room large enough in which to hold their suppers and lunches. The Lodge is out of debt now, the last note which they owed being paid off on the occasion of my visit. The dues are well paid up and the Secretary takes particularly active interest in all his work. A supper after the Lodge was heartily enjoyed by all present. Fraternity and good fellowship prevail, and St. John's, No. 104, is sure to prosper.

Monday, April 9th, I visited Oxford Lodge, No. 76, Woodstock. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. Martin, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Gavin Stewart, and well received by a fairly large turnout of the members. The work in the first degree was well exemplified by W. Bro. Hamilton, and the third degree by R. W. Bro. Gavin Stewart was conferred in a manner that proved him a thorough Past Master in the art. To say that Oxford Lodge is prosperous is only to reiterate what has been said in the past, and pleasant it is to report what must

continue to be, so long as such efficient officers are put in the chairs. The Worshipful Master is clever in his position, both as regards the work and in his manner with his brethren, and is ably assisted by all his officers. The Secretary, Bro. Anderson, is an exemplary one, and to see his manner of keeping the minutes of the Lodge is an education to the majority. A few of the members are too much in arrears, but efforts are continually being made to collect such dues. One good feature of the work of the Worshipful Master is his punctuality in opening and in getting through with the work, so as to obey the injunction in the Ancient charges: "Not to remain out too late at night."

Tuesday, April 10th, I visited St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris, and was well received by a fair turnout of the members. Work in the first degree was exemplified in a most creditable manner. Particular mention must be made of the Junior Warden's delivery of the Lecture. Opening and closing in the other degrees was done quickly and in perfect form. This Lodge was unfortunate in losing its funds a year or two ago, but have now got in good shape again, having a nice balance on the right side of the ledger. The dues are the best paid up of any Lodge in my district, there being at the date of my visit a total arrearage of about \$35 in a membership of 51. The officers are all young men, energetic, and take particular pride in doing the work correctly, and they are well encouraged by the comparatively regular attendance of the Past Masters.

Thursday, April 23, I visited Thistle Lodge, No. 250. Only a small number of the brethren were out to receive me. Owing to the fact that many of the members live in the country at a considerable distance and the roads being bad, I did not feel discouraged. Two candidates for initiation were balloted for and accepted. The work of the first degree was exemplified splendidly by P. M. Bro. Creighton. The W. M. had been sick during the three winter months and had not the confidence to do the work as he wished it done. He says he will be feeling right for the work by the next regular meeting if his health continues to improve. The other officers did their work very well. Financially the Lodge is not strong, but the prospects of plenty of new material places them in a very comfortable position. The

dues are well paid up, as no member is behind for long without being suspended. A lunch was enjoyed after the Lodge meeting, and the harmony that exists among the brethren was plainly seen in the half-hour's conversation that followed.

Friday, April 13th, I visited Plattsville Lodge, No. 178. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. Allshire and well received by a good turnout of the members, with visitors from New Hamburg. This was another stormy night. I have been particularly unfortunate so far in having bad weather during my visits, still the brethren have turned out comparatively well. Plattsville Lodge is thriving. The officers are enthusiastic and critical in the work. The opening and closing in the various degrees was done fairly well, and many questions were asked which I answered to the best of my ability. The Secretary, W. Bro. Henderson, is to be praised upon the neat way in which he keeps the books. The dues are well paid up, only two or three being over twelve months in arrears.

Wednesday, April 11th, I visited Burford Lodge, No. 106. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. Miles and well received by a fair turnout of the members, with visitors from Blenheim, No. 108, and Scotland, No. 193. As no work was on, the Lodge was opened and closed in the various degrees in a creditable manner. I find that several of the members are too much back in their dues, but the Worshipful Master says that efforts shall be made to get them all straightened up. This Lodge is in splendid financial shape. They own the building in which the Lodge room is situated, and have it all paid for with the exception of about \$350, which amount could be materially reduced were the dues better paid up. The building is worth about \$2,000, the lower part of which is bringing them in a nice sum. After the work in the Lodge room a pleasant hour was spent around the festive board. Perfect harmony prevails among the brethren, and with R. W. Bro. Miles to guard the landmarks Burford Lodge must continue to prosper.

Friday, May 18, I visited Blenheim, No. 108, Princeton. I was introduced by Wor. Bro. Smiley and well received by a splendid turn out of the members. This evening being the occasion of the relief of Mafeking, many who had intended to visit the lodge were not pre-

sent. However, the attendance was the best average of any Lodge I have yet visited, there being present either eighteen or twenty out of a membership of twenty-five. Financially the Lodge is not strong, but they have no debt. The dues are well paid up, with the exception of those of one member. As there was no work, the Lodge was opened and closed in the various degrees in a very creditable manner. The chair was occupied by P. M. Bro. Daniels, as the Master, who resides at a distance of about ten miles from the village, was unable to be present. Perfect harmony prevails, and although work has not been plentiful during the past year, no discouragement is felt. A lunch in the room adjoining the Lodge was heartily enjoyed after the meeting. An hour spent in conversation and speaking brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Friday, June 1st, I visited jointly St. John's, No. 68, and King Hiram, No. 37, Ingersoll. I was received by the poorest turnout of the brethren that I have seen during my visits throughout the district. No doubt this was due to the rainy night, the heaviest storm of the season occurring that afternoon and evening. R. W. Bro. Hegler was laid up with a sprained ankle and unable to be out. Work in the second degree by King Hiram, with P. M. Bro. Curry in the East, was done moderately well. W. Bro. Rowland complained of a cold, hence the reason for his not filling the chair. The third degree was well exemplified by St. John's. Both lodges had to fill part of their officers' chairs with members who were not fresh in the work, so there was not the smoothness I should have liked. This, I have no doubt, is all right when there is a better attendance, and the regular officers are in their positions. Both Lodges are doing splendidly, each having plenty of work. Very few members are too much in arrears, and these are being urged to square themselves with the books. The officers I met are enthusiastic workers, and under the guidance of R. W. Bro. Hegler, V. W. Warnock and V. W. Bro. Boles, the Lodges in Ingersoll are sure to prosper.

Friday, June 8th, I visited Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi. This, my official visit to my Mother Lodge, was marked by an unusually large turnout of the brethren. As Secretary of the Lodge, I am fully acquainted with

its affairs. Without speaking boastfully, I think the officers in the various chairs do their work as well, if not better, than any Lodge in the district. On this evening the first and third degrees were both exemplified splendidly. Owing to trouble in the Lodge during the past year or two, there has been no work for the officers to do. Financially the Lodge is very weak; in fact, is considerably in debt; but if everything continues as it is at present, it will be but a short time before everything will be straightened up and the Lodge prospering as it should in this place. Twelve miles is the distance to the nearest Lodge, and it is only on account of wrong conditions that there has not been a larger membership. The brethren feel unanimously that conditions were never better than they are now for the Lodge to go ahead, and are beginning to take more active interest in the work.

Tuesday, July 3rd, I visited King Solomon, No. 43, Woodstock, and installed the officers for the ensuing year. I was well received by a good turnout of the brethren, considering the very hot night. The Lodge room in Woodstock is one of those that is not properly ventilated for summer meetings. There was no degree work for the officers to do after the ceremony of installation was over, but I could see from the way the Master did the closing of the Lodge in the different degrees that he takes pride in doing his work well. The other officers who have the active part of the work to do are comparatively young men and appear to have the interest of the Lodge at heart. There is a large number of the brethren too much in arrears, and the auditor's report, which was read on this evening, called the attention of the Lodge to the fact. I suggested that the work of collecting the long standing accounts should be put into the hands of a Committee, who, having this specially before them, would get the accounts straightened up. The Lodge, however, is in good financial standing, and very prosperous. After the Lodge meeting a very pleasant hour was spent around the refreshment table. Woodstock seems to be a central point for reaching the lodges in the northern part of the district, hence I have been often there during my term of office. I can assure you

that I have many pleasant memories of the brethren of this thriving town.

Fraternally submitted,

A. W. CRYSLER, D. D. G. M.,
Wilson District No. 6.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Wilson District, No. 6, from June 21st, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem- bership.			Degree's Conf'd			Restorations.	Suspendions, N. P. D.	Suspendions, other causes.	Deaths.	Meet- ings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.					Regular.	Emergency.	Total.									
10	Norfolk	Simcoe	90	4	4	7	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	\$36 40	7	\$70 00	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Bright.	Yes	\$ 600	
33	King Hiram	Ingersoll	66	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	40 00	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	No	910		
43	King Solomon	Woodstock	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	1,125		
68	St. John's	Ingersoll	115	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Excellent	Yes	1,181		
76	Orford	Woodstock	115	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	200		
7	King Hiram	Tilsonburg	115	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	400		
89	St. John's	Paris	81	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	No	Yes		
104	St. John's	Norwich	81	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
106	Burford	Burford	64	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
108	Blenheim	Princeton	95	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
113	Wilson	Waterford	64	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
149	Erie	Port Dover	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500		
174	Walsingham	Port Rowan	51	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Splendid	Yes	500		
177	Plattsville	Plattsville	58	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
181	Oriental	Port Burwell	108	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
193	Scotland	Scotland	58	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Fair.	Yes	500		
917	Frederick	Delhi	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Poor.	Good.	Yes	500		
937	Vienna	Vienna	94	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Good.	Yes	500		
940	Thistle	Embro	94	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Fair.	No	None		
961	Oak Branch	Innertkip	92	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Fair.	No	None		
350	Victoria	Victoria	37	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	53 20	40	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	All right.	Yes	750		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT NO. 7.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit to you my report on the condition of Masonry in the Wellington District during the past year.

I desire to return my sincere thanks to the brethren of the district for the honor conferred upon me in electing me to the important office of D. D. G.M., and also for the kindness shown me throughout the year and the cordial reception given me on the occasion of my official visits to the different Lodges. I have endeavored to discharge the duties of my office to the best of my ability and though I know there have been many shortcomings on my part, still I trust that with the assistance given me by my immediate predecessor in office and by R. W. Bros. T. P. Smith and John MacDonald, two P. D. D. G. M.'s of the district, my labors have not been altogether in vain.

During my visits where I have found the work somewhat loosely done, I have impressed upon the officers the necessity of getting it accurately, and to that end of having frequent practices, and I have advised that the Masters should divide up the work, giving the Past Masters portions of it, so that it not only makes it easier for the Masters but prevents the Past Masters from feeling so soon as they have passed the chair their interest is gone and they simply fall back to the position of ordinary members and cease or fall off in their attendance at meetings. I believe this division of the work is an important element in keeping up the general interest.

I am glad to be able to report that the Lodges are in a prosperous condition throughout the district, perhaps with the exception of one or two, in which cases, how-

ever, the trouble is not with the Lodges themselves so much as with the general depression which exists in the places where they are held through the loss of industries, etc., but upon the whole Masonry is making good progress in the district and I am pleased to say that in some Lodges at least a number of unaffiliated Masons are coming back. In some Lodges I have called attention to the fact that many brethren coming late to the meeting has a bad effect by causing constant interruptions and that a large and punctual attendance was a great encouragement to the officers.

As the regalia for the D. D. G. M. belonging to this district had become much the worse of wear, I therefore made application to all the Lodges for the necessary funds to purchase a new set, and my application was promptly responded to by all the Lodges except Harriston Lodge, No. 262, so that the new regalia has been provided, but I am sorry that this Lodge neglected to pay its share when the amount required from each was small.

I have visited officially all the Lodges in the district on regular meeting nights, and the expenses incurred by me in making my visits have in all cases been promptly met.

On my return from Grand Lodge, after my election to the office of D. D. G. M., I was given a reception by my own Lodge, at which there were brethren present from Guelph, Fordwich, Kincardine and Springfield, Ill., and an altogether too flattering address was presented to me. I may also mention that I received a number of kind letters from brethren of the district offering their congratulations. I refer to this because it is such expression as these which give a person heart to perform the duties of any office and makes those duties a pleasure. I know they greatly encouraged me in assuming the duties of an office rendered all the harder by having to follow my immediate predecessor, R. W. Bro. Lockhart.

On the occasion of my first visit to Speed Lodge, No. 180, Guelph, the W. M. expressed an opinion that he thought it would be beneficial if the Lodges would exchange visits and work degrees in other Lodges than their own. I thought the suggestion a good one, and so mentioned it at the following meeting my own

Lodge, when, it being thought well of, an invitation was given to the W. M. and officers of Speed Lodge to come to Elora on June 15, and confer the third degree, which invitation was accepted. The result surpassed my expectations, for we had more than forty visitors from the Guelph Lodges, and those in our neighborhood. The work was very well done by the W. M. of Speed Lodge and his officers. I would recommend that this idea should be more extensively carried out all over the jurisdiction as a means of creating greater interest in the work and producing uniformity as well as to bring the brethren together.

In making this report I have not lost sight of the remarks of the Committee on the Condition of Masonry in their report made to Grand Lodge last year, and I have therefore endeavored to confine myself as much as possible to what is of general importance to Grand Lodge, as showing the position of the various Lodges and the general condition of Masonry in the district.

I have not issued any dispensations myself, but I have procured them for Waverly Lodge, No. 361, and Guelph Lodge, No. 258, for the purpose of installing officers at a time other than that provided in the by-laws, and also for Mercer Lodge, No. 347, to elect and instal officers, and Harris Lodge, No. 216, for an At Home.

I have only received reports of Masonic funerals from two Worshipful Masters, namely, the W. M. of Speed Lodge, No. 180, of the funeral of the late Wor. Bro. Skinner, and the W. M. of Harris Lodge, No. 216, of the funeral of the late Bro. G. W. Ward. I believe there were other funerals not reported.

Guelph Lodge, No. 258: My first official visit was to this Lodge on September 12, when I was accompanied by about a dozen brethren from Elora. The chair was ably filled by the Master, W. Bro. R. Mahoney, jr. The work of the evening was an initiation, the degree being conferred by the Worshipful Master, who was well seconded by his officers, the lecture being given by the Junior Warden, Bro. McDowell, very accurately, and the Junior Deacon, Bro. W. A. Mahoney, also did his part well; in fact, the whole work was satisfactorily done, especially as the officers were only installed in June. The attendance of the brethren of this Lodge and of the other Guelph Lodges was large. R. W. Bro. Ma-

honey delivered the charge. I noticed that the candidate paid careful attention to the obligation. This Lodge has initiated a fair number of candidates during the year.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334, Arthur: I visited this Lodge on October 17th. The work done was in the third degree and was fairly well done. The Master, Wor. Bro. Snider, conferred the degree, assisted by two of the Past Masters, their work being good, but the floor work was not so well done. This, however, is accounted for by the fact that the Lodge has lately lost a number of its officers, and these chairs had to be filled by brethren who had only just received their third degree. The attendance was not so large as it would have been had the evening not been so wet, which kept away brethren who lived out of town. The By-laws were revised during the year.

Galt Lodge, No. 257, Galt: November 7th was the date of my visit to this Lodge. The work done was a raising, and the candidate was a good one. He was not the one expected, so he had to be instructed at the last minute; nevertheless he answered the questions accurately. The work was done by the Master, Wor. Bro. Pierce. I was glad to meet so large a number of brethren. They came from Preston and Hespeler, as well as from the Sister Lodge in Galt. The Lodge has done a fair amount of work during the year.

Scott Lodge, No. 421, Grand Valley: Visited this Lodge on November 15th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. Petrie, of Elora. The work of the evening was conferring the second degree, which was done by the Master, W. Bro. Preston. The whole work was very fairly done, especially that of the Senior Deacon. The Lodge was opened in all the degrees, and three brethren were examined in the third, who answered very well, the obligation being repeated in all cases. The attendance of the brethren of the Lodge was very good. A number of visiting brethren were expected, but on account of the unfavorable weather failed to come. I was asked to make a number of rulings. The lodge claims to have one of the best Secretaries in the district and the state of his books supports the claim.

Conestoga Lodge, No. 295, Drayton: I visited this Lodge on November 21st. The work was in the second

degree and was fairly well done. The Master, W. Bro. Dales, was in the chair, and conferred the degree, assisted by a Past Master. The candidate passed a very good examination, showing that he had been carefully instructed both as to the questions and the obligation. I recommended that the officers get their work more accurately, so as to avoid even small changes from the work as given by Grand Lodge. The financial affairs of this Lodge are now getting into good shape. I was glad to see a large attendance of visiting brethren, and I think the future of the Lodge is bright. I called on Bro. Wood, a member who is confined to his house and is receiving a grant from Grand Lodge. I found him cheerful and very grateful for the assistance given.

Harris Lodge, No. 216, Orangeville: Visited on December 12th, and was very cordially received and well looked after during my visit. It unfortunately happened that there was a lecture given in town that evening by a popular Toronto lecturer, which took some of the brethren and made the opening late, but, notwithstanding this, the attendance was good. The work was the initiation of a candidate and was done by the Master, W. Bro. Brett, who occupied the chair, and who was ably seconded by his officers. The whole work was well done, the charge being given by one of the youngest brethren in a very exact and impressive manner. The election of officers was held and resulted in the election of the Senior Warden, Bro. Fish, as W. M. I am sure Harris Lodge is not deficient in good material for officers. I met Bro. Dick, who was initiated in Ireland in 1843.

Alma Lodge, No. 72, Galt: Visited on December 26th. The Master, W. Bro. Hunter, was in the chair and did the work, which was an initiation, and was well done, not only by the Master, but by all the officers. This was the Master's first initiation. The Lodge is flourishing and is taking in a number of new members of a good class. The attendance was good.

Avr Lodge, No. 172, Ayr: Visited this Lodge on December 27th. There was no work on hand, but it was the occasion of the installation of officers which ceremony I took. I had no opportunity of seeing the officers doing the work. The Master, W. Bro. Cassie, was installed for his third term, the Wardens also being the same, except that they exchanged chairs, this being done

because the Past Senior Warden was not desirous of going into the Master's chair. The Lodge is not strong in numbers, which makes it sometimes difficult to get the necessary number to open. It is suffering with the general depression of the village.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262, Harriston: Visited on January 8th. The work was in the third degree and was done by the Immediate Past Master, Wor. Bro. McCullough. The Master, W. Bro. Huyck, was present, and took the chair for the opening and closing of the three degrees. The degree work, as well as the opening and closing, was well done. It was intended that there should be a passing, which the Master was prepared to do, but the candidate failed to turn up. The candidate who was raised was not well prepared for the examination, nor did he know the obligation, but I understand that had the candidate for the second degree been present the brother who was raised would not have been raised that evening. The attendance was good. This Lodge is going ahead and making a number of new Masons.

Durham Lodge, No. 306, Durham: Visited on Jan. 9th. There was no work, but a candidate was balloted for and accepted. He was not on hand, however, for initiation. The Master, W. Bro. Telford, was in the chair and the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, which was fairly done. I pointed out a number of errors in the work, which the officers all took in a proper Masonic spirit. I am glad to be able to make a much better report than that of my predecessor. They have been under considerable difficulties, but are now in a fair way of getting out. The attendance was good for a Lodge not strong in numbers, and I am happy to say that they are remitting dues and reinstating some members who were suspended, and a number of old members who had taken out their demits have returned. I am informed that since my visit the Lodge has been moved into more commodious premises.

Blair Lodge, No. 314, Palmerston: Visited on January 19th. The work of the evening being the first and third degrees, the initiation being taken by a Past Master and the raising by the Master, W. Bro. Clements. The work of both degrees was well done. The Deacons are young Masons and were only installed in December, this being their first meeting as officers, but they never-

theless did very good work. R. W. Bro. Hyndman was present and gave the newly initiated candidate the charge. There are a number of Past Masters in this body who attend and take an interest in the work. The Lodge is prospering and a number of good members are coming in.

New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hespeler: Visited Feb. 14th. There was no work; two candidates were balloted for and accepted, but through unavoidable circumstances neither of them could attend that evening. The Master, W. Bro. Kopeman, and his officers were prepared for an initiation, as it was expected that at least one of the candidates would be there. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and it might have been done better, but they have only had one meeting since installation and became somewhat rattled. The attendance was good and a large number of Past Masters were present taking an interest in the work.

Waverley Lodge, No. 361, Guelph: Visited this Lodge on February 26th. The work of the evening was a passing and was well done. The Master, W. Bro. Clark, was in the chair and conferred the degree. I was glad to compliment the Senior Deacon on the floor work. The Immediate Past Master was well up and makes a good prompter. The attendance was fair, but not so large as it would have been but for other attractions in the city, and from the fact that the evening was severely cold.

Wellington Lodge, No. 271, Erin: Visited March 14th. The work was two initiations. The Master, W. Bro. Royce, took the first and the second was taken by W. Bro. Leitch, a Past Master. The work in both cases was well done, not only by the Masters, but the other officers as well, and the lecture was most accurately given by the Junior Warden. The Lodge is flourishing and is having a good deal of work, the new members being young men and of a good class. One feature was a splendid supper in the banquet room, given by the landlord, Bro. Sutton and his wife, at which the families of the brethren were present. It was very pleasant, and will serve materially to obliterate any prejudice there may be against Masonry.

Preston Lodge, No. 207, Preston: Visited March 16.

The Master, W. Bros. Roos, was in the chair, but neither of the Wardens or the Inner Guard were present. There was no work. It was intended to have a raising, but the candidate was not present. The attendance was not large, and the Master was just recovering from an attack of illness. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the work so far was very good. Some brethren from Hespeler were present.

Grand River Lodge, No. 151, Berlin: Visited April 10th. The work of the evening was in the second and third degrees, the chair being occupied by the Master, Wor. Bro. Lancereth, while the second degree was conferred, and by the I. P. M., W. Bro. the Rev. R. Von Pirch for the third. The work in both degrees was well done. The attendance was not so large as it might have been, considering that the membership of the Lodge is about the largest in the district, but they have a number of good Masons, and I understand that there are many non-resident members. This Lodge gave a very pleasant banquet and social reunion on December 7th, at which I had the pleasure of being present.

Clifford Lodge, No. 315, Clifford: Visited on April 16th. There was no work, and has not been for some time. The Master, W. Bro. Tolton, occupied the chair, but neither Warden was present. This was accounted for by the fact that it was the Easter holidays, and they were out of town. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, but was indifferently done. The Lodge is small in numbers, and this creates a difficulty because they don't always have a sufficient number to open, and having no work they get very little practice. They are, however, in a good financial position.

Irvine Lodge, No. 203, Elora: I visited this, my own Lodge officially on April 20. The work was a passing, the chair being occupied by the Master, W. Bro. McMurchy, during the opening and closing in all the degrees, but the degree was conferred by the I. P. M., Wor. Bro. Petrie. It was intended to have an initiation also, which would have been taken by the Master, but the candidate was not on hand. Of course I know the working of this Lodge well, as I seldom miss a meeting, and I can say that it has not deteriorated from the high standing given in the reports of my predeces-

sors. A number of visitors from Mercer Lodge, Fergus, was present.

Speed Lodge, No. 180, Guelph: Visited on May 1. The work was an initiation. The Master, Wor. Bro. Rapp, was in the chair and conferred the degree. The whole work was very well done, showing a careful attention to everything and particularly to details. The attendance of members was good and I was glad to see a large number of brethren from the other Guelph Lodges. Six brethren from Elora accompanied me.

St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, Mount Forest: Visited on May 11th. The work of the evening was in the first degree, the chair being occupied by W. Bro. Ireland, a Past Master, as the Master, W. Bro. Young, died in April, and the chairs of the Junior Warden and Junior Deacon were also vacant owing to the removal of the officers filling them from Mount Forest. These vacancies placed the Lodge at a great disadvantage in its work, and especially that of the first degree, but notwithstanding this the work was well done, as also the opening and closing in the other degrees. These offices having so lately become vacant, it was not advisable to do anything to fill them, because the annual election takes place in June. The attendance was small at first, but as the evening progressed it became good.

Mercer Lodge, No. 347, Fergus: Visited officially on June 1st, but I have given this Lodge particular attention and have attended a number of their meetings. As a result of their year's work I am glad to be able to make a much more favorable report than that of my predecessor, and I think I may say that they are now fairly on the road to again become prosperous, after having passed through troubles which nearly wrecked the Lodge. I found that the Master had not been installed for more than two years, and in fact all the officers were simply holding over, so after some new members joined by affiliation I obtained a dispensation to elect and instal new officers, which was accordingly done on April 18th. I attended and took the chair and after the election installed the officers. On the occasion of my official visit the work was an initiation, which was done by the Master, W. Bro. Craig, two of the officers were unavoidably absent. The attendance was not so large as it would have been but for the fact that the eve-

ning was wet. There is much good material in Fergus and the prospects are now good. This concluded my official visits.

In conclusion I can only again express my thanks to the brethren of the district for the kind manner in which they treated me on all my visits, and I can say that the year of my occupation of the office of D. D. G. M. will always be looked back on by me as one of the happiest of my life.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

EDWARD BURNS, D. D. G. M.,
Wellington District No. 7.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M., of Canada,
in the Province of Canada*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Eighth (Hamilton) District for your consideration.

Having been honored by the brethren of this district with the position of District Deputy Grand Master, I determined that so far as my ability permitted I would fill the high office in a manner that would not reflect discredit on their choice.

My first official act was to appoint Wor. Bro. A. E. Terryberry, of Dufferin Lodge, District Secretary, but I regret that, first, his own illness and afterward the serious illness of members of his family, has prevented him, to some extent, from taking such share of the work as he otherwise would have done.

During my term of office I had the pleasure of visiting every Lodge in the district, and some of the lodges several times. For two years immediately preceding my election to the office of D. D. G. M., I had visited all the Lodges in the district as District Secretary for Rt. Wor. Bros. C. V. Emory and A. T. Freed, and was therefore somewhat familiar with the needs and peculiarities of each Lodge, and knew which Lodges most needed help and advice.

The condition of Masonry in this district is excellent, and I believe there has been a very steady increase. During my visits I found in every case, with one exception, that the Secretaries reported a reduced amount of outstanding dues, and an increased attendance and interest in the work. Fraternal visits are becoming more frequent between the members and most of the Lodges, and a great deal of good results therefrom, but there are still some Lodges in the district whose members very

seldom sit in any other Lodge but their own, who would be very much benefited by visiting in their vicinity, and it would give the officers of such Lodges an opportunity of seeing by comparison where they might improve in their work.

The following Lodges have submitted changes in their By-laws: Barton, No. 6; Doric, No. 121, and Seymour, No. 272, which were all duly forwarded to the Grand Master for approval.

I have issued dispensations to the following Lodges for the purpose of wearing regalia while attending Divine Service: Dufferin, No. 291, at West Flamboro; Seymour, No. 272, at Ancaster; Waterdown, No. 357, at Millgrove; Wentworth, No. 166, at Stony Creek; Acacia, No. 61, Hamilton, and Temple, No. 324, Hamilton. I have had no notification of the names of any of the brethren who have died during the year, although the reports from the various Lodges show that about eighteen have passed beyond the bourne whence no traveler returns.

My first visit was made to Harmony Lodge, No. 57, Binbrook, accompanied by R. W. Bros. C. V. Emory and John Hoodless. W. Bro. Springstead, the W. M. of Wentworth Lodge, accompanied by eight of his officers, was present, besides members of Dufferin, Seymour and St. Andrew's Lodges. The Senior and Junior Wardens were both unavoidably absent. There was a good attendance of members. The books are very neatly kept by Wor. Bro. J. F. Senn, who has been for ten years a faithful and painstaking Secretary. The Worshipful Master conferred the second degree upon a candidate in a very satisfactory manner. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition, owns the building in which it meets, and has no debts. The membership of the Lodge is 56, and the average attendance is 18.

On Sept. 17th, attended Divine Service with Dufferin Lodge at Bullock's Corners. Bro. Rev. E. A. Irving, of Dundas, delivered an excellent sermon. There was a large turnout of brethren from Valley, Seymour, Waterdown and St. George's Lodges, also from several Hamilton Lodges.

On Sept. 24 the brethren of Seymour Lodge attended Divine Service at St. John's Church, Ancaster. A very instructive sermon was preached by W. Bro. Rev. W.

R. Clark. I was unable to be present, but was informed that a large number from the surrounding Lodges joined with the Seymour brethren on that occasion.

October 1 I went to Millgrove to join with the members of Waterdown Lodge in attending Divine Service at the Methodist Church, Millgrove. Rev. Bro. Kelly preached an eloquent and impressive sermon to a large gathering of Masons.

October 12 visited St. George's Lodge, No. 243. W. Bro. J. Fleming and his officers show that they have devoted much time to their work and are well skilled. The third degree was conferred upon a candidate and applications from three good citizens were received that evening. Since last January they have found it necessary to hold six special meetings for the purpose of conferring degrees. R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed was present, and Dufferin Lodge, of West Flamboro, made a fraternal visit on this occasion. The Worshipful Master has the support of the Past Masters, who are very regular in their attendance. The financial affairs of the lodge are well managed, and having no liabilities and a very small amount of arrearage for dues, they seem to have a bright future before them.

On Tuesday I visited Waterdown Lodge, No. 357, Millgrove, by driving seven miles through a heavy rain storm. As it had rained almost all that day and was still raining during the evening, the roads were very bad, and as the membership is scattered there was not as large a turnout as might have been desired. The Master, Wor. Bro. Pepper, was in the chair, and a candidate was expected for that evening, but as he lived at a distance of eight miles the storm prevented him from coming, but a brother kindly volunteered to act as a candidate, and the W. M. and his officers put on the work of the first degree in a highly creditable manner. It is very gratifying to find this Lodge in such a prosperous state as compared with what it had been for some years previous to 1897. The officers have the advice and regular attendance of six to eight well skilled Past Masters. They meet in a very comfortable room, have no rent to pay, have lately procured a new set of regalia, and with a neat surplus of cash are now in a very prosperous condition.

Creek, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Holden and V. W. Bro. Beaumont, of Credit Lodge, Georgetown; the W. M.'s of St. John's, No. 40; Harmony, No. 57, and Acacia, No. 61, and a large number of members from the surrounding lodges. Wentworth Lodge is in a very prosperous condition; although situated in a small village it has a membership of 85, and during this year, up to the present date, has initiated 16, passed 13 and raised 11, and 4 applications were read upon the evening of my visit. The W. M., Bro. J. Springstead, and his officers do their work in a very superior manner. The average attendance is large. The members all seem to take a keen interest in everything in connection with the work of Masonry, and are noted for their hospitality, and many fraternal visits are exchanged with the lodges in the City of Hamilton. At the District Meeting held during the session of Grand Lodge at Ottawa a committee was appointed to procure a new D. D. G. M. regalia, and two members of that committee, v. W. Bro. Beaumont and W. Bro. Somerville, of St. John's, No. 40, were present, and on behalf of the district presented me with the new regalia.

On Sunday, Nov. 26, the brethren of Wentworth Lodge attended Divine Service at Stony Creek. A very large number of Masons were present, including members from Harmony, Seymour, Dufferin, Valley, St. Andrew's, Union, and the various lodges of the City of Hamilton.

Thursday, Nov. 16, visited Dufferin Lodge, West Flamboro, accompanied by the officers of Valley Lodge, Dundas. Brethren were also present from Seymour, Waterdown and St. George Lodges. The Master, W. Bro. Ross, and his officers worked the second degree in a manner that showed beyond doubt that they were expert at the work. From many years of personal knowledge of Dufferin Lodge, I can say that the Lodge is in a healthy condition. It has not had such a marked increase of membership, but love and harmony prevail to a very marked degree. Much of the success of the Lodge in the past is due to the untiring zeal of V. W. Bro. A. Jones, who for many years has discharged the duties of Secretary.

December 8 visited Acacia Lodge, No. 61, Hamilton.

This was the first official visit I had made to any of the Lodges in the City of Hamilton, and the Craft turned out in large numbers to do me honor, ever and sitting down to the banquet table. The W. M. and officers from my own Lodge at Dundas, upon invitation from Acacia, accompanied me upon this occasion. Invitations had also been sent to Burlington, Wentworth, Seymour, Waterdown and Dufferin Lodges. I presided at the election of officers, and Wor. Bro. S. A. Morgan was re-elected Master for a second term. R. W. Bro. George C. Holden is a member and regular attendant of this Lodge, and has been Treasurer for many years. Wor. Bro. Morgan, on behalf of the Lodge, presented Wor. Bro. Thomas Epps with a Past Master's Jewel as a token of their esteem. Bro. Epps affiliated as a Past Master from Seymour Lodge, Ancaster, but his kind manner and zeal in the cause of Masonry have endeared him to the members of Acacia.

Dec. 12 visited Temple Lodge, No. 324, Hamilton, and conducted the election of officers, and from the unanimous vote cast for all the officers I would judge they had been doing their duty in the past year. Bro. Stuart Livingstone, the W. M., having been in British Columbia since last May, the duties of his office have been conducted in a masterly manner by the Immediate Past Master, Bro. A. Zimmerman. Temple is the youngest but one of the city Lodges, but is coming well to the front, along with its older sisters. The second degree was conferred upon a candidate in a manner that reflects great credit upon the acting W. M. and all the officers.

Dec. 13 visited Burlington Lodge, No. 165, accompanied by R. W. Bros. T. McCallum and G. C. Holden, and the W. M.'s of Acacia and Doric Lodges, of Hamilton. Valley, Wentworth, Seymour and St. Clair Lodges were also represented. V. W. Bro. James Cox acted as District Secretary. The W. M. having been removed from the village last March, the duties of the office had devolved upon W. Bro. Fleetham, I. P. M., and he had the officers well up in their work and conferred the second degree upon a candidate in a very creditable manner. The strained feeling and want of harmony which prevailed when I visited the Lodge a year ago, and which has been mentioned by my predecessor in his report, I am rejoiced to see, has been entirely re-

moved and the new officers give promise of being enthusiastic, and there is work on hand for some months. In the person of Bro. Bryan Hicks, the Lodge has an excellent Secretary, who takes great interest in his work and who declined the opportunity of going to the south, as he considered he could better advance the interest of the Lodge by continuing in the Secretary's office. The Lodge has a membership of 50 and an average attendance of 16.

December 15 visited Strict Observance Lodge, No. 27, Hamilton. Two candidates were in waiting to receive the second degree, and the Master, Wor. Bro. Breckenridge, with his officers, conferred the degree in a manner that showed that they fully understood their business. This was the annual meeting of the Lodge, and at the request of the W. M., I presided at the election of officers, and a very promising set of men were chosen from among the membership present, and I am pleased to note from subsequent visits that their selection was a good one. R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis, Grand Registrar of the Grand Lodge, is an active member of this Lodge, and was present on this occasion; also the following P. D. D. G. M.'s: R. W. Bros. W. F. Miller, R. L. Gunn, J. Malloy, T. McCallum, G. C. Holden and A. T. Freed.

Dec. 17 the six Lodges of the City of Hamilton attended Divine Service in Central Presbyterian Church, where the Rev. Bro. N. F. Salton preached a very instructive and eloquent sermon.

Dec. 21 visited St. John's Lodge, No. 40, Hamilton. This is the largest Lodge in the city and also for many years has had the largest membership on the Grand Register of Canada. Its present membership is about 355. Under the guidance of Wor. Bro. Somerville, this Lodge has had a very prosperous year. V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister has for some years discharged the duties of Secretary in a manner deserving special mention. This was the annual meeting of the Lodge, and I was asked to preside at the election of officers. R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, was present, also many of the Masters and officers from the Lodges in the district.

February 8th, 1000, visited St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, Milton. It rained nearly all day, and the roads were

very sloppy. I was met at the railway depot by the W. M. and three brethren, who very soon made me feel quite at home and very comfortable, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. About thirty members were present at the Lodge. The Master, W. Bro. Geo. Sitzer, and his officers, although only installed the month previous, conferred the second degree upon a candidate in a manner that would have done credit to the officers of any Lodge. Wor. Bro. Dr. McCrimmon acted as District Secretary, and I find from his statement that the Lodge had a membership at that time of 57, with an average attendance of 18, and had increased 7 in membership. The Lodge has a large meeting room and the interior is neatly finished and well furnished. A large number of Past Masters are regular in their attendance, and their advice and presence are appreciated by the younger brethren. I was much pleased on this occasion to meet with Most Wor. Bro. John Lesslie, of Winnipeg, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, who still retains membership in his Mother Lodge where he first saw light twenty-seven years ago.

February 14th I made my official visit to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, Caledonia. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Holden, of Acacia, who was made a Mason in this Lodge thirty-seven years ago. The Lodge records show a small but steady increase of membership for several years past. There was no work on hand, but at my request the Lodge was opened in the several degrees, and various parts of the work were exemplified, which showed that the present officers, although new at their work, having been installed only the month previous, had already given it considerable time and practice, and I am sure their zeal and interest will be of good for the welfare of the Lodge. A number of visitors were present from Enniskillen, Seymour and Dufferin Lodges. Wor. Bro. Thompson has acted as Secretary for eleven years, and although nine miles from the lodge has only missed six meetings in that time. At the time of my visit he reported only two members over twelve months in arrears. The Lodge has a membership of 36 and an average attendance of 14.

March 12 I visited Walker Lodge, No. 321, Acton. V. Wor. Bro. S. Beaumont and several members of Credit Lodge, No. 219, Georgetown, were present. The

membership of this Lodge is small, but some months previous to my visit a revival of interest has been noticeable, and three candidates had been recently accepted, one of whom was initiated on the night of my visit, and on that same evening two more were proposed. The Past Masters are very regular in their attendance. W. Bro. Dr. Wren, who was Master in 1898, came specially from Toronto, where he now resides, to be present at this meeting. The Lodge room is small, but has lately been newly papered and painted, and presents a very neat appearance. The Lodge is fortunate in having for Secretary Wor. Bro. W. R. Kenny, who for thirteen years has filled the office with great satisfaction. He reported the membership to be 31 and the average attendance 14. At the close of the meeting I drove across country through the snow drift to Georgetown, which enabled me to make better railroad connection next morning.

March 13 visited Oakville Lodge, No. 400, accompanied by W. Bro. Dr. McCrimmon, of St. Clair Lodge, and W. Bro. Birrell, of Hamilton, who acted as District Secretary. From previous visits to this Lodge I was aware of the excellent manner in which they exemplify the work of the degrees, and this occasion was no exception. The officers give evidence of much practice and drill, and all delivered their charges with confidence and in a clear voice. The Lodge room and its appointments are neat and comfortable. The membership is 84, with an average attendance of 20.

March 16th visited Credit Lodge, No. 219, Georgetown, accompanied by R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed and W. Bros. Dr. McCrimmon and Wm. Birrell. We were met at the railway depot by the W. M. and W. Bros. Beaumont and Harley, and were most cordially received. A large gathering of members were present, also some from Walker Lodge, Acton. This Lodge for some years had trouble among its members and was at a standstill, but the previous Master, W. Bro. Findlay, with the advice and counsel of R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, then District Deputy Grand Master, was successful in uniting the two factions, and perfect harmony has resulted, and already a considerable increase of membership has taken place. The present Master, Wor. Bro. Allen, owing to illness, had not sat in Lodge since his

installation in January, but he opened the Lodge in the various degrees, and with his officers conferred the third degree upon a candidate in a most satisfactory manner. Two candidates were proposed and the prospects for the Lodge are bright.

Since my visit in March Wor. Bro. Findlay has found it necessary to remove his business to St. Catharines, and the members of Credit Lodge before his departure presented him with a gold Past Master's Jewel as a recognition of his services.

April 10 visited Brant Lodge, No. 45, Brantford, accompanied by W. Bros. A. M. Cunningham and Wm. Birrell, of Hamilton. I am pleased to note that a much more cordial feeling exists between the members of the two Lodges in this city than was formerly the case. The W. M. and a number of the officers and members of Doric Lodge were present on this occasion. The Master, Wor. Bro. Jos. Broadbent, and his officers all deserve great praise for the way in which they exemplified the degrees, which were put on in a manner that showed they had taken great pains and devoted much time and thought to the work. The Lodge owes much of its success to the persevering work of the Secretary, R. W. Bro. S. F. Passmore, and I was sorry to hear that affliction in his family prevented him from being present that evening, his mother having died the previous day.

On April 20th I was present at a reception given to the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Bro. E. T. Malone, by the six Lodges of the City of Hamilton. Members of the Craft and their lady friends to the number of about 500 assembled to do him honor and to enjoy the event. Most Worshipful Bro. H. Murray, Grand Treasurer, on behalf of the City Lodges, presented the Grand Master with an address, beautifully bound, engrossed and illuminated. An excellent programme of music and elocution was then presented, afterward a splendid supper was provided in the banquet room. The magnificent new hall of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies, as well as the rooms of the Royal Arch Chapter and the Knights Templar were at the disposal of those who chose to play games of various kinds, and the large blue room was used for dancing.

May 8 I visited Seymour Lodge, No. 272, Ancaster. I was accompanied by a number of brethren from Val-

ley, Dufferin, Wentworth and St. Andrew's Lodges, and some from the City of Hamilton, including R. W. Bro. T. M. Davis, Grand Registrar. There was a large turnout of the membership of Seymour Lodge, and they are a most enthusiastic lot of Masons. The Lodge has been making steady progress for some years, and is now discussing the advisability of purchasing property in the village for Lodge room purposes. The present Master, W. Bro. Butter, is well skilled, and with his officers has had considerable work, having up to this date initiated eleven during his term of office, and up to the night of my visit two more were balloted for. The membership is 62, with an average attendance of 23. Wor. Bro. Daniels, who for 25 years has been a very regular attendant at all Lodge meetings, was on this occasion presented with a very handsome Past Master's Jewel.

May 14 I visited Valley Lodge, No. 100. A very large gathering was present, about 14 different Lodges being represented. The Lodge has had a prosperous year. Their meeting room is the best in the district excepting the cities of Hamilton and Brantford; but I regret to say that the Wor. Master since his installation last July has only been present at three meetings; but one of the Past Masters, Wor. Bro. Charles Hetnermington, came to the rescue and has carried the Lodge work through the year with credit to himself and the Craft, and upon the evening of my visit he, with the assistance of the officers, initiated a candidate in a manner that brought forth many compliments from those present. A candidate was also waiting for the third degree, but consented to wait until the next meeting. The Lodge has a membership of 75, with an average attendance of 23, during the year six had been initiated, four affiliated and two restored, and several applications have since come before the Lodge, and I think after the election of officers next month that Valley Lodge will have a long season of prosperity.

May 18 visited Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford, accompanied by R. W. Bro. J. Malloy and V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister, from St. John's Lodge, Hamilton. The City of Brantford was on that evening celebrating the relief of Mafeking, the streets were thronged and fireworks and bonfires were seen everywhere, but nevertheless a large turnout of Masons were on hand in their

beautiful lodge room to welcome me. The lodge has had a prosperous year under the guidance of Wor. Bro. M. Willbee, who has the advice and assistance of R. W. Bros. Dr. Heath and James Liddell, P. D. D. G. M. The second and third degrees were conferred in excellent style by the W. M. and his officers. V. W. Bro. Stewart and a small contingent were present from Seymour Lodge, Ancaster; also brethren from St. George and Burford.

June 1 I visited The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton. This is the oldest lodge in the district, having celebrated its centennial anniversary five years ago. The Lodge has had a very prosperous year. At this meeting the Lodge was opened at 9:30 a.m., and during the day the third degree was conferred upon ten candidates, the work being done by the Masters of the various City Lodges with their officers. The whole day's work was gone through without a hitch in the programme. The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Bro. E. T. Malone, was present during the latter part of the afternoon, also M. W. Bros. William Gibson and H. Murray, Grand Treasurer. At 7 o'clock the brethren to the number of about 200 adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where dinner was served and a few toasts proposed. At 9 o'clock the lodge was again called on and the traditional history of the degree given to the candidates by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, assisted by the Past Masters of the lodge. Then came a very interesting feature of the gathering. The Past Masters retired from the room and returned with a large silk British flag, escorted by a detachment of the 13th Regiment with fixed bayonets. The members of the Lodge joined in singing Rule Britannia, after which R. W. Bro. A. T. Freed, on behalf of the Past Masters of Barton Lodge, presented the flag. Wor. Bro. J. P. Steedman made a most eloquent reply in accepting the beautiful gift. The election of officers was then proceeded with, a very choice musical programme being carried on at the same time.

June 18 I visited Doric Lodge, No. 382, Hamilton. This was the last and also one of the most interesting of my visits. Doric Lodge is the youngest Lodge in the city, and by the energy and determination of its officers has of late very much improved its financial position. This was the annual meeting of the Lodge, and

at their request I conducted the election of officers, and the unanimous way in which the election was carried out spoke much for the harmony which prevails in their midst, and if the newly-elected officers can work through the year with the same harmony and success as their predecessors have done, Doric will have a good record to show to my successor. R. W. Bro. Dr. Emory was again elected Secretary, and will prove a great help and adviser to the new officers.

On Sunday, June 24th, I joined with the brethren of the Lodges in the City of Hamilton in celebrating St. John the Baptist day by attending Divine Service at Christ Church Cathedral. The service was most ably conducted by Bro. Rev. E. M. Bland and Wor. Bro. Rev. F. E. Howitt. The brethren did not walk in procession from the Lodge room as formerly, but met at the Sunday School adjoining the Church, and at the appointed time put on their regalia and entered the Church in a body. The attendance was large and the collection very liberal.

In conclusion, I desire to extend my sincere thanks to the brethren of the Hamilton District for their kindness shown to me during my term of office, especially to those who often at great inconvenience to themselves accompanied me on my visits. Nearly all the Lodges have paid me the usual fee towards my expenses; and I have received from Strict Observance, No. 27; St. John's, No. 40; Acacia, No. 61; Burlington, No. 166, and Temple, No. 324, most beautiful tokens of remembrance, which I shall always prize among my most treasured keepsakes, not on account of their intrinsic value, which is indeed considerable, but because of the memories they will always recall of this my year of office, which has been one of the pleasantest of my life.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

F. A. LATSHAW, D. D. G. M.,
Hamilton District, No. 8.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

*The Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following brief report of the condition of Masonry in Georgian District, No. 9, for the year 1899 to 1900.

Before doing so I should like to place on record my sincere thanks to the brethren of the district for the honor they conferred on me last July in electing me to the most important office in their gift, that of D. D. G. M., and for their continued courtesy and kindness to me throughout my term of office, ably seconding my efforts for the good of Masonry in the district, and generously overlooking my shortcomings and mistakes.

My first official act was to appoint that staunch old Mason, V. W. Bro. J. H. Dickinson, P. M. of Beaver Lodge, No. 234, Clarksburg, as District Secretary, to whom I am deeply indebted for the able and painstaking manner in which he performed the duties of his office, and for his company and counsel in several of my official visits. I also appointed the Rev. Dr. Caswell, S. W. of Pythagoras, No. 137, Meaford, as District Chaplain.

I have endeavored faithfully to discharge the duties of my office and have visited all of the Lodges, with the exception of two, in the district, the reason of these exceptions will be explained in the adjoined report of official visits, and have wherever possible visited the Lodges on their regular meeting night. From the want of good railway or other communication between distant Lodges in the district this has not always been possible.

I am pleased to be able to report that Masonry throughout the district is in a very satisfactory condition and is flourishing. There is everywhere an in-

creasing desire among the officers of the different lodges to secure uniformity and perfection in the work.

While the membership of the lodges has almost without exception been steadily growing, it has been increasing not at the expense of quality, but so far as I have been able to judge the new members entering have been of the very highest class, "just and upright men of sound judgment and strict morals," and likely to prove a credit to the Craft in every way. Another sign of prosperity throughout the district is the fact of so many of the Lodges refurnishing or redecorating their rooms, or adding fresh furniture or fittings improving the beauty of their surroundings during labor.

Another encouraging sign is the fact that, as foreseen and hinted at by my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Morgan, two of the weakest lodges in the jurisdiction previously have become leaders in the quality of work done, in increase of membership, and in general progressiveness. I refer to Simcoe Lodge and Georgian Lodge. Much of this is undoubtedly due to the universal efforts of R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, who toiled early and late with them, but a great deal is also due to the painstaking care and splendid Masonic enthusiasm of the officers of the respective Lodges.

On the evening of Oct. 27th I had the pleasure of attending and assisting at the dedication of the new home of Simcoe Lodge, Bradford. They now have a beautiful set of rooms, most artistically furnished and most complete for Masonic purposes. The dedicatory services were conducted by the G. M., M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, assisted by R. Wor. Bros. Morgan, Broughton and many other distinguished brethren from Toronto, Barrie, Beeton, Cookstown, Clarksburg and surrounding Lodges. After the service, which proved the brethren of Simcoe Lodge, enthusiastic Masons, was concluded, the visiting brethren were entertained at a banquet, which demonstrated beyond cavil that they were one and all Past Masters in the art of entertaining.

I issued dispensations to Pythagoras Lodge, Meaford, Spry Lodge, Beeton, and Manito Lodge, Collingwood, to attend Divine Service on June 24th, the Festival of St. John the Baptist.

I would join with many of the P. D. D. G. M.'s in

hoping that some arrangement can be made, so that all officers of lodges should be elected in May or June, so that the D. D. G. M. may begin making his official visits at once instead of crowding them into the short space of five or six months. In a district like the Georgian, where Lodges are widely scattered, it is almost impossible to do full justice to yourself or to the Lodges under the present circumstances.

I had the honor of installing the newly-elected officers of Beaver Lodge on the 27th December, the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

By the request of the M. W. the Grand Master I had made arrangements to represent him at the laying of the corner stone of St. Thomas' Church, Brooke, a suburb of Owen Sound, when the ceremony for local reasons was postponed. I was then asked by telephone from the pastor, at almost the eleventh hour, if it would be possible to lay the stone on July 2nd. I was then in Militia Camp at Niagara, and replied that I would try and arrange it. On my return home I found that other engagements had been made for me, and was reluctantly compelled to reply that the pressing emergencies of my public and private avocations would prevent my officiating. However, I wrote for dispensation to be issued to R. Wor. Bro. James McLaughlan to perform the ceremony, and I have no doubt from my knowledge of that gentleman, both privately and Masonically, that the stone was "well and truly laid" and in a manner most satisfactory to all concerned.

Died: Bro. Lewis J. Alger, Simcoe Lodge.

Bro. A. A. Ingersoll, Beaver Lodge.

Bro. Maxwell Hall, Orillia Lodge.

Bro. Andrew W. McCarthy, Orillia Lodge.

Bro. Henry Harper, Kerr Lodge.

Bro. James Lindsay, Manito Lodge.

V. Wor. Bro. James Buckley, Georgian Lodge.

Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford: In company with Wor. Bro. Pedwell, I.P. M., of Beaver Lodge, No. 234, Clarksburg, I visited this Lodge on the evening of Jan. 26th. The night was one of the stormiest of the winter, and consequently the attendance was not as large as was expected, and instead of four initiations, one passing and one raising, on the notices, the absence of some of the candidates made it possible to get through

the work in reasonable time. There was a goodly number of P. M.'s in the East, including R. W. Bro. Broughton and V. Wor. Bro. Boddy. This Lodge has passed through many vicissitudes, having been burned out no less than five times since the charter was originally issued to it, and one of the most interesting relics it possesses is the charter enclosed in a deep frame, which was saved, charred, but still serviceable from their last fire. In another place I have referred to the dedication of their new and beautifully fitted hall, which I attended on Oct. 27th, 1899. The work presented before me on the evening of my official visit was undoubtedly the best exemplified in any of the Lodges in my district, and was absolutely faultless. This is no doubt due to the enthusiasm and determination to be perfect, displayed by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Orton and his able Wardens, Bros. Oldham and Scanlon, whose example is faithfully followed by the other officers. This Lodge also possesses an exceptionally good Secretary in the person of Bro. George R. Coombes, whose good work has had no doubt much to do with the success of this, the banner Lodge of the district. Before closing I might state that this Lodge has increased in membership over fifty per cent during the year, and that the quality of the new members is of the very best.

After labor was over we retired and enjoyed a bountiful repast, and most pleasant hour or two of speech and song in the fourth degree.

St. George's Lodge, No. 88, Owen Sound, and North Star Lodge, No. 322, Owen Sound: According to the usual custom of the good brethren of Owen Sound, they met together on the occasion of the visit of the D. D. G. M., the result being as usual a grand success. They possess a beautiful Lodge room, which on this occasion was filled with P. M.'s, many being obliged, for want of room, to take seats below the dais. Among those in the East were R. Wor. Bros. Creasor, McKnight, McLaughlan and Bishop, and many other staunch Masons. Wor. Bros. Dickinson and Pedwell and Bro. Smith, of Beaver Lodge, accompanied me on this visit.

It being the regular meeting of St. George's Lodge, the lodge was opened in the first degree by the officers of this Lodge, and the regular business transacted, up to the order of conferring degrees. The officers of

North tSar Lodge then took the chairs and conferred the first degree upon a candidate in a very creditable manner indeed, the work of Wor. Bro. Wright being particularly good, both in opening and also in the degree work. The Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees and the officers of St. George's Lodge took the chairs and exemplified the third degree, and then closed in the different degrees. The work throughout was exceedingly well done, and the harmony existing between the two Lodges is a living example of that love and harmony which should at all times characterize Freemasons. Both of these Lodges are blessed with excellent Secretaries in the persons of Bro. John Ruthertord and Bro. W. P. Telford. After the lodge was closed we adjourned from labor to refreshment in their fine banquet hall and enjoyed a sumptuous repast. Two or three hours were spent in that social and fraternal intercourse, interspersed with speech and song which Masons so thoroughly know how to enjoy and appreciate.

Manito Lodge, No. 90, Collingwood: In company with a number of the brethren of Beaver No. 234. I visited Manito Lodge, No. 90, on the evening of Feb. 14, and was received with that cordiality and true Masonic kindness characteristic of the brethren of this Lodge. There was a large turnout of the members, and the East was well filled by Past Masters, among whom were R. Wor. Bros. Nettleton, Toner and Avlesworth. The opening and closing of the different degrees was exceedingly well done, but I regret to say that I was disappointed in the work of conferring degrees, not that it was not well done, but that the work of exemplifying degrees in Manito has always, in my experience, been of so high an order that my expectations in that direction were not realized. I have many times seen it done much better when just dropping in to visit them, and can only conclude that the officers must have had an off night; in fact this is probably the case, as a number of them had attended a big Red Cross Ball the night before. The Lodge is in a very prosperous condition, and has a full list of highly capable officers, among whom I might mention the S. W., Bro. D. Knight, and the Secretary, Bro. T. H. White, whose neatly and correctly kept books and prompt attention to corres-

pondence place him second to none among the many good Masonic Secretaries in this district. After closing down all repaired to their splendid banquet hall, where two or three hours were spent in the enjoyable manner in which Manito Lodge so well knows how to make it pleasant for their visitors.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie: I visited this celebrated old Lodge on the night of March 1st, the night made memorable by the receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith, and found the loyal old town of Barrie celebrating it in the most approved manner by an impromptu patriotic meeting in the Opera House, which was attended by many hundreds. I was received at the station by my old friend, R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Wor. Bros. Barnum and Cowan, and Bro. J. H. Willis, S. W. of the Lodge, by whom I was most hospitably entertained during my stay. On arrival at their beautiful Lodge room we found it very well filled. Indeed it may fairly be considered a very large attendance considering the circumstances. The East was completely filled by P. M.'s, including R. Wor. Bros. D. McWatt and Fletcher. The work as exemplified by Wor. Bro. Barnum and his officers was very well done, indeed, but still in this case, as in that of some of the other Lodges, it could have been, and has been, done better in my presence. While the work of the W. M. and his Wardens was excellent, it was marred by the imperfect work of some of the appointed officers, and to produce perfect work, not only the principal officers, but even what may be considered the least important officer of the Lodge, must be perfect, otherwise the effect as a whole, is to a certain extent spoiled. I must refer to the excellent work of the Secretary, Bro. Wilkes, whose books are beautifully kept. A very pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation of some handsome pieces of plate to that widely known and true Mason, R. Wor. Bro. D. MacWatt, who has never spared himself in the interests of Masonry in general, but more particularly in advancing the welfare of Corinthian Lodge. The occasion was his departure from among them to take up his duties as a Judge in a distant county, a position to which his eminent abilities justly entitled him. A great many members of Kerr, the Sister Lodge, and of other Lodges, were present, and during the evening

members kept dropping in who had felt it their duty to attend the Patriotic meeting, and by the time work was over and we retired to the banquet room to refresh ourselves after our labors, the seating capacity was tried to its utmost. After a sumptuous repast the time passed swiftly with speech and song until the "wee sma' hours agant the twae" forced us to separate, "happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford: In company with some of the members of Beaver No. 234, I visited this Lodge on the evening of Feb. 16th, their regular meeting night. There was a large attendance of members, and the East was well filled with P. M.'s. The work of opening and closing in the different degrees, and the conferring of the first degree upon a very healthy looking 200-pound Masonic infant, was exceedingly well done by Wor. Bro. L. Boyd and his officers. This Lodge is prospering and increasing largely in membership, owing no doubt largely to the excellent work and enthusiasm of the W.M. While I am pleased that this should be the case, still I am sufficiently conservative to view with some degree of apprehension a very rapid increase in the membership of a lodge, fearing that in their desire to make their lodge a success, the members may possibly sacrifice quality to quantity, which is one of the greatest mistakes that can possibly be made, leading almost invariably to future disaster. After our labors were concluded we adjourned to the banquet room of the Lodge, where a very pleasant time was spent in refreshment, speech and song. I had also the pleasure of attending a Masonic supper and impromptu musical entertainment given by the members of this Lodge to their wives and lady friends on the evening of Feb. 6th, which was an immense success and of this Lodge to their wives and lady friends on the evening in which Masonry has always been held by the fair sex of the pretty little town of Meaford.

Orillia Lodge, No. 192, Orillia: On the evening of Good Friday, April 13th, I visited Orillia Lodge, No. 192. There was a very good attendance of members, and the East was well filled with P. M.'s, among whom I was pleased to see my old friend, R. Wor. Bro. Roper, one of the most enthusiastic members of this splendid Lodge. They have one of the most beautifully ap-

pointed and most perfectly fitted Lodge rooms in the district. Whether it was that the date of my visit, the 13th, had anything to do with it or not, but the whole visit seemed to resolve itself into a chapter of minor accidents. Before Lodge opened I was informed that the W. M., Bro. Dr. Ardagh, had been summoned by telegram some thirty miles away, to attend a critical case; one of the other officers had been suddenly called to Toronto, and one was with the Canadian contingent in South Africa. Things looked blue for a successful meeting, and on my arrival at the Lodge room this impression was greatly intensified by the fact that the air of the room was literally blue and suffocating with smoke, resulting from something having gone wrong with the furnace, necessitating the compulsory withdrawal at intervals of members who were unable to stand the effects of the smoke. In spite of these drawbacks, the work of opening and closing in the several degrees was proceeded with. I. P. M. Bro. Gilchrist and P.M. Bro. Tudhope alternated in the chair, with the result that I had the pleasure of seeing the work exemplified by these brethren and the other officers, many of whom were substitutes, in a most perfect manner, and I was assured by them that had I been able to see it done by the regular officers I should have witnessed a very much better exemplification, a statement which I found myself very loth to believe. After labor an adjournment was made to their elegant banquet room, where a sumptuous repast awaited us, and the discomforts of the Lodge room were forgotten in an impromptu entertainment of speech and song, principally musical, which would have done credit to the best concert programme, for as a vocalist the Orillia Mason, individually and collectively, is a howling success.

Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie: On Nov. 20th, 1899, I visited Kerr Lodge, Barrie, where I was most hospitably entertained during my stay by that most enthusiastic Mason and prince of good fellows, R. Wor. Bro. J. C. Morgan. There was a splendid attendance of members and officers belonging to the Lodge, and also of the Sister Lodge, Corinthian, and the East was filled to overflowing with P. M.'s belonging to both Lodges. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees and style by the officers. The exemplification

of the first degree was done in a most creditable manner by the W. M., Bro. Marr, and his officers, notwithstanding the evident nervousness of the W. M. The Junior Warden's lecture was splendidly given by the J. W., Bro. Foncar, and the charge was most impressive as delivered by the S.W., Bro. Hangton Lennox. Mention must also be made of the good work done by the J. D., Bro. Wilson. Kerr Lodge is also to be congratulated on the fact of having so thoroughgoing a Secretary as Bro. Fred N. Lloyd. After the regular work was concluded several of the recently raised brethren were subjected to a most searching cross-examination by R. Wor. Bros. Morgan, Wor. Bro. Jory and myself and several other P. M.'s, all members being invited to put questions, and no question being barred relating in any way to Masonry. The result was that the questions were answered in the most satisfactory manner, reflecting the greatest credit on the instructors and showing the value of thorough instruction not only in the regular questions, but in everything referring in any way to the degrees, the Lodge, or Masonry in general. I understand that R. W. Bro. J. C. Morgan was the originator of the idea of the more perfect instruction of the brethren, and I am free to confess I picked up several points myself from the examination as conducted in Kerr Lodge, and most heartily approve of its extension. After an evening which was certainly profitable to myself and, I hope, of some benefit to the Lodge, we retired to refresh ourselves after labor, in the spacious banqueting hall of the Lodge. After a most recherche supper a couple of hours were spent most enjoyably by all in speech, song and story, until the J. W.'s toast admonished us that the best of friends must part in sorrow, to meet again in joy.

Beaver Lodge, No. 234. Clarksburg: I visited this, my Mother, Lodge officially on the evening of Feb. 13, 1900, their regular meeting night. There was a good attendance of members and visitors, and the East was well filled with P. M.'s. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the first degree conferred on a candidate. Being a regular attendant at the Lodge, I can only say that Beaver Lodge prides itself on the quality of its work, and that the work as exemplified this evening did no discredit to their own

opinion of it. The Lodge is steadily prospering on very conservative lines, believing that nothing but the best material is good enough for membership in it. The regular attendance is good and I can see nothing but prosperity ahead for it, when counseled and looked after by such staunch Masons as R. W. Bro. Pye, V. W. Bro. Dickinson, Wor. Bros. Hartman, Carroll, Pedwell, Lewis, and many others whose interest in Masonry and the Lodge seems to increase rather than diminish as the years roll by. After the regular work was over we adjourned to partake of a most elaborate repast prepared, no doubt, as a token of appreciation of the honor again conferred upon Beaver Lodge by the election of one of her members to the office of D. D. G. M.

Manitoba Lodge, No. 236, Cookstown: I visited Manitoba Lodge on their regular meeting night, March 20th, and was most agreeably surprised at the quality of the work presented before me. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and Rev. Bro. McLennan was passed to the second degree in a very creditable manner. There was a very fair attendance of members and some visitors from Spry Lodge, Beeton, including the W. M., Bro. Reynolds, and Wor. Bro. Croft. This Lodge has been prospering lately and increasing their membership in a very satisfactory manner, and by the zeal displayed hopes may be fairly held out of its continuing. The Lodge room, however, is too small, and it would be highly advisable to secure more commodious quarters. After the work was concluded adjournment was made to refresh ourselves after labor, where a couple of hours of speech and song brought to a close an evening which was not the least enjoyable of my official visits.

Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, Midland: By the courtesy of the W. M., Bro. Raikes, in calling an emergency meeting, I was enabled to visit this Lodge on the evening of Feb. 2nd. I was accompanied by Wor. Bro. Kenny, the Worshipful Master of Georgian Lodge, No. 348, of Penetang. We drove over from Penetang through a tremendous snowstorm, and were most cordially received by the brethren. Owing to the inclemency of the weather the attendance was only fair. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and a reverend candidate was initiated in a most credit-

able manner. The work was not perfect, owing to some of the officers not having given sufficient attention to it, but the work of the W. M., Bro. Raikes, and that of the I. G. was exceptionally good. The Secretary, Bro. Wallbridge, is also an excellent officer. The prospects of this Lodge under the guidance of the very able W. M. should be excellent, and the membership is increasing most satisfactorily. The town of Midland is booming and the membership should be rapidly augmented in the near future. After labor we adjourned to refreshment, and at this the officers and members of Caledonian Lodge proved that in the exemplification of the fourth degree they could be surpassed by none.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, Stayner: I now approach one of the painful duties of a D. D. G. M. I have written to Stayner several times to endeavor to get a meeting that I might visit them. I received an answer from the last W. M. that they had not been able to get a meeting since the regular meeting in December, 1899, when the officers were duly elected. Since then I am informed by Wor. Bro. Harold Sheppard in a letter dated May 30th, 1900, that they have not been able to secure a quorum. Early in July I received a letter from Bro. D. McLeod, stating that he had been duly elected W. M. in December and asking me to pay them an official visit, if possible, that week, and install the officers. This, of course, was impossible without having proper notice given of the meeting and a dispensation granted. I understand that there are internal dissensions in the Lodge. I had intended to visit the town and investigate, but the pressure of business, Masonic and otherwise, prevented me. I would suggest that this be done, and if matters are as I understand them, I can see nothing to do in the best interests of Masonry, than to advise the removal of the charter.

Seven Star Lodge, No. 285, Alliston: In company with Wor. Bro. Pedwell, I. P. M. of Beaver Lodge, No. 234. I visited this Lodge on the evening of April 11th. There was a large turnout of members and a goodly number of visitors from Bradford Cookstown, and other towns. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees and a brother passed to the second degree in a most exemplary manner, the chief objection being that the charge was read to the candidate. Un-

fortunately the W. M. of the Lodge was a non-resident, but in spite of this the membership increased to some extent, and with a resident W. M., which I have no doubt they will have next year, I can see no reason why the progress should not be entirely satisfactory. The membership is evidently of a very good class and work harmoniously together, and the Lodge room is all that could be desired. After labor we adjourned to the banquet room of the hall and spent an hour or two most enjoyably in the usual Masonic manner.

Minerva Lodge, No. 304, Stroud: I was unable to visit the Lodge by reason of the fact that their membership is small, only twenty, and a number of these are away in Manitoba. I wrote several times to try to secure a meeting, but received the reply as above, invariably requesting me to postpone my visit, as it was very doubtful whether a quorum could be secured. I understand, however, that while the work is not by any means perfect, the membership is very steadfast, attending to their Masonic duties and holding well together in spite of the small number of their members.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 333, Flesherton: In company with Bro. Smith, of Beaver Lodge, No. 234, I visited this Lodge on the evening of March 16th, at their regular meeting. There was a very good turnout of members, some of them coming from a very considerable distance to be present. The East was well filled with P. M.'s. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the first and third degrees exemplified very creditably by Wor. Bro. Boyd and his officers. This Lodge has been receiving quite an addition to its members during the past year, and the prospects are very bright. The membership is evidently made up of workers, no doubt following the excellent example of such P. M.'s as Wor. Bros. Richardson, Mitchell, Bellamy and Carter. In addition to their Lodge work they evidently believe in enjoying themselves, as I received an invitation to picnic with them at Eugenia Falls on June 20th, which I was unable to accept, being in camp at Niagara. After labor we retired to the banquet room to refresh ourselves at a most tastefully decorated table prepared by the wives of the members, showing that they, too, take an active interest, where a short time was most enjoyably spent. Before closing I must refer

to the noble work which this Lodge is doing for one of their members who has been bedridden for years, and who assured me that the members of Prince Arthur lodge never tired in their efforts to make his lot less hard to bear by kindly offices and substantial assistance.

Georgian Lodge, No. 348, Penetang: In company with R. Wor. Bro. Morgan, P. D. D. G. M., who had put himself to great inconvenience to be with me, I visited this Lodge on the evening of Feb. 1. There was a fair turnout of members and a number of visitors from Midland, including Wor. Bro. Raikes, of Caledonian Lodge. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in a most perfect manner. The first degree was conferred upon a most intelligent candidate almost faultlessly; in fact, had it not been for insufficient preparation on the part of one of the minor officers, it would have been most difficult to decide between Simcoe and Georgian Lodges as to which did the most perfect work; but by the negligence of this single officer he has placed his Lodge in second place. Otherwise the staff of officers under the W. M., Bro. Kenny, is most efficient. The Lodge is progressing in membership and prospects are bright for it. They have sustained a great loss during the last year by the death of one of their most enthusiastic and hard-working brethren in the person of the late V. W. Bro. J. Buckley, who was almost as well known as the town itself. After labor adjournment was made to the Hotel Canada, where a most elaborate banquet had been prepared, and where we were joined by the wives and lady friends of the members, who thus had another opportunity of learning how Masons enjoy themselves when with their brethren, and they evidently appreciated it thoroughly, for they seemed almost more inclined to continue and make a night of it than did the members themselves.

Lorne Lodge, No. 377, Shelburne: I visited this Lodge on the evening of March 15th, it being an emergency meeting. There was a very small attendance of members, partly on account of an important meeting of the Town Council. The esteemed Secretary of this Lodge, Wor. Bro. Chas. Mason, has been for some time confined to his house through illness, and was unable to attend the Lodge. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner.

There being no candidate, the first degree was conferred on a volunteer. While the work was very correctly done, it was so hurried as to lose entirely the impressiveness which is so necessary to the proper exemplification of all degrees. This perhaps was due to some extent to the absence of the S. and J. W.'s, who were attending Council. Altogether this was the most unsatisfactory visit I made. There seemed to be an entire absence of the true Masonic spirit. It seemed to be the desire of officers and members to rush through the work and get home at the earliest possible moment, sacrificing entirely the dignity of the work to a desire to get through with it in the shortest time possible.

Spry Lodge, No. 385, Beeton: I visited Spry, No. 385, on the evening of March 21, at their regular meeting. There was an immense attendance, including large contingents from Bradford, Alliston, Cookstown and other places, filling the commodious hall to overflowing, while the East was quite inadequate for the number of P. M.'s present, among whom were W. Bros. Boddy and Orton, of Simcoe Lodge. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in exceptionally good style, and the first degree was conferred very well indeed by the W. M., Bro. Reynolds, and his officers. I regretted that the charge was omitted, as none of the officers were able to give it. This has occurred in other Lodges, and I have invariably urged upon them the desirability of delivering the charges to the candidates in the same way as the other work, in order to render it impressive and to bring out the true beauty of the work. After labor was finished we retired to the banquet hall of the Lodge, where was served a splendid repast. After the inner man was satisfied a couple of hours was spent in speech, song and story, developing the fact that Spry Lodge and its visitors understand the art of making the fourth degree quite as perfect as any of the others.

Nitetis Lodge, No. 404, Creemore: In company with Wor. Bro. Pedwell, I.P.M. of Beaver Lodge, No. 234, I visited Nitetis Lodge on the evening of April 10th, at an emergency meeting. There was a fair attendance considering the small membership of this Lodge, and several P. M.'s were in the East, including Wor. Bro. H. M. C. Wright, of Alliston. The lodge was opened

in the several degrees in first class style. There being no regular candidate, one of the brethren volunteered to act, and the first degree was conferred upon him in a most creditable manner by the W. M., Bro. Brown, and his officers. The utmost harmony exists among the members, and the membership is slowly but steadily increasing. The Lodge room is neatly but plainly furnished, and if the present enthusiasm continues I have no doubt that Nitetis Lodge will become a credit to the Craft.

Before bidding farewell officially to the brethren, I would like to return my most hearty and sincere thanks to the officers and members of the different Lodges in this district, from whom I have invariably received the most perfect courtesy and kindness; to the Secretaries, those hard-worked and most underestimated officers of the different Lodges, and to the brethren who have so kindly accompanied and assisted me in my official visits, among whom I might mention R. Wor. Bro. Morgan, Wor. Bro. Pedwell, and last, but by no means least, my most efficient District Secretary, V. Wor. Bro. J. H. Dickinson.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

FRED D. KENT, D. D. G.M.,
Georgian District, No. 9.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report for the past year of Niagara District, No. 10.

I am pleased to report that the condition of nearly every one of the 21 Lodges is good and the prospects bright. As a rule the Lodges were presided over by officers who were thoroughly devoted to the best interests of the Craft. The arrearages for dues in some cases were too large, but there seemed to be a general desire to obviate the difficulty. Wise and judicious action on the part of the Secretaries will accomplish this result. I am pleased to report that there has been the utmost harmony throughout the district. Progress has been the watchword, and I think that the year just closed has been one of the most satisfactory that we have had for some time. My visits to all the Lodges were paid on their regular nights of meeting, except in the City of St. Catharines, where a large union rally of the three Lodges took place. The reception accorded me as the representative of the Grand Master was most cordial and hearty, and I count this as the brightest and best year of my Masonic career.

No. 2, Niagara Lodge, Niagara-on-the-Lake: I visited this Lodge on February 14th, 1900, and witnessed an exemplification of the F. C. degree. The work was exceedingly well performed, and while all the officers acquitted themselves so well, I cannot but mention the very impressive manner of the S. W. and S. D., both young and zealous officers. V. W. Bro. Clement, one of the oldest P. M.'s in the district, presented the working tools in a most creditable way. There was a large attendance of P.Ms. I was most hospitably entertained by the brethren and learned very much of the very in-

teresting history of this—one of the oldest Lodges within the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.

No. 7, Union Lodge, Grimsby: My official visit was made on March 15th, 1900. The work for the evening was the conferring of the second degree. W. Bro. Cole and his assistant officers rendered the work in faultless style. There was a large attendance of members, with visitors from Ivy Lodge and a number from Hamilton. The Secretary, R. W. Bro. Forbes, is a most enthusiastic Mason and performs his duties to the satisfaction of all. It also afforded me very great pleasure to attend the Centennial of this Lodge, which was celebrated at Grimsby Park in August, 1899. This event brought together a large number of the Craft. M. W. Bro. Gibson presided both at the meeting in the pavilion and at the banquet in the evening, which was a very elaborate affair. The history of this Lodge is a most interesting and instructive one, and this was certainly a red-letter day in Union No. 7.

No. 15, St. George, St. Catharines: A union meeting of the three City Lodges—St. George, Maple Leaf and Temple—was held on February 7th. It had been arranged that St. George should confer the third degree, but lack of time prevented. However, I have every reason to believe that this is one of the best working Lodges in the district. Bro. Lindsay, the Secretary, is a most painstaking and efficient officer, and the prospects of this Lodge are encouraging.

No. 32, Amity, Dunnville: My official visit to this Lodge was made on April 25th, the occasion being the Semi-Centennial. The brethren termed it the "Old Men's Night." R. W. Bros. Parry and Tipton filled the Master's and Secretary's offices respectively. There was no work for the night, but the Lodge was opened and closed in ancient form, and it was very interesting to the younger brethren. The Secretary read letters of regret from many prominent brethren, including the Grand Master. R. W. Bro. I. P. Willson, of Welland, a Mason of fifty years' standing, was present, and with many others of the "Old Guard" spoke eloquently on the beauties of the Craft. A very high-toned banquet brought the meeting to a close. The brethren of Dunnville are royal entertainers, and Amity Lodge is justly proud of its history.

No. 35, St. John's, Cayuga: I made an official visit to this Lodge on May 17th. This is the home of my talented and zealous predecessor, R. W. Bro. Hoshal. My expectations in finding this a model Lodge were not disappointed. While no work was performed (the candidate failing to appear), the Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees to my entire satisfaction. The attendance of members was large and the utmost harmony prevails. My predecessor took special care to make the visit pleasant in every way. The hospitality of the brethren was unbounded, and I reckon this visit among the most delightful duties of the year.

No. 103, Maple Leaf, St. Catharines: I made an official visit to the above Lodge on the evening of February 7th, 1900. It was a union meeting of the three City Lodges. Great preparations had been made, and the brethren must have felt much satisfaction in realizing their efforts so well repaid. The M.W. the Grand Master was present and received an ovation at the hands of the brethren. A large number from every part of the district attended, as well as a contingent from the City of Buffalo. W. Bro. Leubsdorf and his officers conferred the work of the first degree. In the presence of so many distinguished brethren it may have been more trying than usual, but I wish to congratulate Maple Leaf on the ability and zeal shown by its presiding officers. After the lodge was closed the brethren to the number of over 200 sat down to one of the finest banquets I have ever attended. In reply to the toast of the Grand Lodge, M. W. Bro. Malone gave one of his eloquent and characteristic addresses. There were also replies from our American cousins, and thus ended one of my most pleasant and profitable official visits.

No. 105, St. Mark's, Niagara Falls South: I paid my official visit to St. Mark's on April 10th, 1900. A very sad event marred the enjoyment of the evening. While the Lodge was in session it was announced that one of the brethren, James Lowell, ex-M.P., had just expired. There was no work on hand but the brethren opened and closed in good form. R. W. Bro. Garner, one of my predecessors, has been acting as Secretary, but I believe has since resigned. The officers seemed active and interested in their duties and I am sure this Lodge has reason to expect good results in the future.

W. Bro. Hull has accepted the Secretaryship, and will no doubt prove a very efficient officer.

No. 115 Ivy, Beamsville: I accepted an invitation to pay this Lodge my official visit on the night of installation, Dec. 27th, 1899, when I assisted in installing the officers for the year. There was a good representation of the members from Barton and Doric Lodges, Hamilton, and from Union Lodge, Grimsby. The exemplification of the first degree was given with great exactness and precision by V. W. Bro. Ritchie and his officers. M. W. Bro. Gibson read the charge in his usual impressive manner. The brethren showed every courtesy and made my visit most agreeable and pleasant. The banquet in the Lodge Room after lodge was closed was an occasion of much interest and elicited addresses from many visiting brethren. Ivy is one of the strongest Lodges, numerically and financially, in the district.

No. 168, Merritt, Welland: I paid my official visit to this, my Mother Lodge, at its regular meeting March 12th, 1900. The work for the evening consisted in conferring the E. A. degree. The exemplification was all that could be desired. W. Bro. Ross and his assistant officers are enthusiastic Masons, and I look for great prosperity during their tenure of office. The brethren turned out in good numbers to welcome one of their own members, who had been so highly honored by the representatives of the old Niagara District. The block in which the Lodge Room is situated was burned last year, and much inconvenience was the result. However, after a delay of months, the Lodge has been meeting regularly, and although sustaining quite a financial loss by reason of the fire, will soon be in a flourishing condition again, and at every meeting visitors from Copestone are to be found ready, if necessary, to assist in the work.

No. 169, Macnab, Port Colborne: Made an official visit to this Lodge on March 13th. A large number of brethren from Merritt and Copestone accompanied me. In the absence of any degree work, the W. M. W. Bro. Ellsworth, opened and closed in the several degrees. This was fairly done. There was a large attendance of Past Masters, who seemed to take a good deal of interest in the discussions of the evening. A petition was re-

ceived so that work would likely be in order in a short time. Judging from what I observed there is ample material here to make a first-class working Lodge. We were most cordially and hospitably entertained at the banquet, and pronounce this visit as among the many pleasant ones during my term of office.

No. 185, Ennisikllen, York: I paid my official visit on June 11th. Bro. Bain met me at Cayuga and drove me to his residence, York, a distance of six miles, where I was entertained during my stay. This Lodge suffered severely by fire, but the members through their untiring zeal and energy have erected another building which does credit to them. It is not quite fully equipped, but I have no doubt soon will be. There was nothing in the way of work, but a very profitable evening was spent. W. Bro. Nelles opened and closed in the three degrees in a way creditable to himself and officers. The Secretary, W. Bro. Scudamore, is careful and zealous, and keeps his books neatly and correctly. I met a number of brethren from St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, who drove down during the evening. This Lodge has a number of Past Masters who are well skilled in the work, and the prospects are bright for the future.

No. 221, Mountain, Thorold: I visited this Lodge on Dec. 13th, 1899. The attendance of members was large and there was quite a number of brethren from the City of St. Catharines present, among them being my old personal friend, W. Bro. Stevenson. R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, of Toronto, was also present and gave a very practical address on matters relating to the Craft. The election of officers being concluded—and I may add that a splendid lot of young members were chosen—the work of initiating a candidate was proceeded with. W. Bro. Oxley seemed a trifle nervous at first but soon overcame that feeling, and I was well satisfied with his explanation. In fact, each officer did well. Bro. Fish, the veteran Secretary, is certainly one of the best in the district. The fourth degree was worked to perfection, and the kindness and courtesy of all the members was everything that could be desired.

No. 254, Clifton, Niagara Falls: Visited Clifton at a regular meeting on February 1st, 1900. I was very much pleased to find W. Bro. Wood, a life-long friend of mine, in the chair. The first degree was worked ad-

mirably, each officer, from the W. M. down, taking his part well. Attendance of members was large, and a few from across the border were present. P. D. D. G. M. I. P. Willson accompanied me. Clifton Lodge certainly deserves the distinction of being one of our very best working and up-to-date Lodges. The banquet afterwards was of a high order, the Mayor of the town and the W. M. being in charge of the table.

No. 277, Seymour, Port Dalhousie: My official visit Seymour was on March 14th, 1900. Out of a total of 15 members present all were P. M.'s but two. In the absence of work the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees fairly well. The utmost harmony seems to prevail. One drawback here is the fact that a good many of the members are employed on the lakes and are unable to attend regularly during the summer months.

No. 296, Temple, St. Catharines: My official visit here was on February 7th, 1900, when a union meeting of the three City Lodges was held. As the officers of St. George conferred the degree, it was arranged that Temple should open and close in the various degrees. This part of the programme was carried out to my entire satisfaction. The officers showed great proficiency, and I have not the slightest doubt are capable of conferring the degrees equally well. This meeting must have been productive of much good not only to but to the other City Lodges.

No. 319, Hiram, Hagersville: I visited this Lodge on April 12th, 1900. In the absence of the W. M., W. Bro. McNichol, occupied the chair. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, as there was no degree to confer. I was impressed with the very easy manner in which the business of the evening was conducted. The officers were all active and energetic. The luncheon and addresses by a number of the Past Masters were highly enjoyed.

No. 329, King Solomon, Jarvis: My visit was on February 9th, 1900. There was a good attendance and great interest manifested. No degree work was on hand, but the W. M. went through the ceremony of opening and closing in the several degrees. I was well pleased with the way in which it was done. This Lodge is fortunate in having among its members two such dis-

tinguished brethren as R. W. Bros. Noble and Jacques, whose labors in the Niagara district were so highly appreciated. We were most hospitably entertained at the American Hotel.

No. 337, Myrtle, Port Robinson: Visited officially on March 30th, 1900, when I was accompanied by a number of brethren from Welland. The attendance was fair. W. Bro. Bennet opened and closed in the various degrees correctly. The officers of Myrtle are zealous, and it is a pleasure to visit this Lodge. It is very difficult, however, to keep up the interest during the summer, as many of the members are dredgemen and away for the season. The brethren have the happy faculty of giving all visitors the most cordial and hospitable treatment.

No. 338, Dufferin, Wellandport: My visit was made June 12th, 1900. A very good attendance was found, including V. W. Shafley and a number from Merritt and Copestone Lodges. The election of officers was held, and the selections made were all young, enthusiastic and energetic Masons, and predict good results in the future. Here, as elsewhere, I received the greatest hospitality. W sat down to a splendid banquet at Bro. Miller's, when the usual loyal toasts were honored.

No. 372, Palmer, Bridgeburg: My first official visit was made to this Lodge in November, 1899. The brethren turned out in large numbers. Being right on the border there was quite a number of visitors from Buffalo. R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, of Toronto, was also on hand. The third degree was most admirably worked by R. W. Bro. Hurrell; in fact, it impressed me as being the most beautiful rendition I had ever witnessed. Palmer is certainly not behind the evry best working and well-appointed Lodges in this district. W. Bro. John Watts occupies the Secretary's desk, and is in every respect a model officer.

No. 373, Copestone, Welland: I visited officially on March 1st, 1900. The night was bitterly cold and the candidate failed to appear, but the Lodge gave an exhibition of opening and closing which reflected much credit on W. Bro. Sutherland and officers. This Lodge for a number of years past did not make much progress, but under the direction and management of its present W.M. it has taken rank amongst the foremost in

the district. Bro. Mains, the Secretary, who is an energetic and zealous Mason, has rendered much valuable assistance to bring about this happy result. The relations between the two Town Lodges are the most cordial and harmonious.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the brethren of Niagara District for the honor they conferred on me in electing me to the high position of District Deputy Grand Master. It was so unexpected that the appreciation was the greater.

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. CROW, D. D. G. M..

Niagara District No. 10.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Niagara District, No. 10, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.		Degree's Conf'd		Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	A. F. O. E. M.				Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deced.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrears.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Members.	Conf'd.	E. A.	F. C.				M. M.																				
7	Niagara	Niag. on Lake	47	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	\$10.00	28	Good.	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Yes	\$1,00		
8	Union	Grimsby	40	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Yes	300			
9	St. George	St. Catharines	81	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	June 24 1900	Good.	Yes	300			
32	Amity	Dunnville	32	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	June 24 1900	Good.	Yes	100			
35	St. John's	Cayuga	79	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Fair.	Dec. 27 1899	Fair.	Yes	400			
32	Maple Leaf	St. Catharines	104	1	1	4	5	3	2	3	1	8	3	15	115	58	88	80	14	90	00	Dec. 27 1899	14	\$90	00	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Yes	400	
05	St. Mark's	Niag. Falls S.	74	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	June 25 1900	Good.	Yes	400			
15	Ivy	Beausville	68	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Yes	500			
03	Merritt	Welland	64	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Yes	1,400			
60	MacNab	Port Colborne	54	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	May 4 1900	Good.	Yes	300			
85	Emiskill	York	50	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Fair.	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	No	400			
31	Mountain	Thoro'd	90	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Yes	500			
54	Clifton	Niagara Falls	93	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	June 24 1900	Good.	Yes	750			
81	Seymour	Port Dalhousie	96	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	June 24 1900	Good.	Yes	400			
96	Temple	St. Catharines	96	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Poor.	Jan. 13 1900	Poor.	Yes	400			
96	Hiram	Hagersville	96	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Jan. 31 1900	Good.	Yes	400			
99	King Bol'n	Jarvis	99	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Jan. 29 1900	Good.	Yes	900			
99	Myrtle	Port Robinson	99	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 '98	Good.	Yes	900			
98	Dufferin	Wellandport	98	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	No	300			
78	Palmer	Bridgeburg	80	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Good.	Dec. 27 '99	Good.	Yes	450			
73	Copestone	Welland	86	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	28	Fair.	Dec. 27 '99	Fair.	Healthy.	Yes			

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT, NO. 11.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor of presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in Toronto West, District No. 11, during the past year, and in doing so I likewise extend my thanks to the brethren of the district for their expression of confidence in me in electing me to the high position of D. D. G. M.

My first appointment was that of W. Bro. David Hoskins to be Secretary of the District.

At the commencement of my official work for the year I caused a circular to be issued to each Lodge in the district containing a notification of my appointment and thereafter notified each lodge in ample time of the date of my official visit, which doubtless accounts in some degree for the good attendance which usually greeted me.

I have visited each Lodge in the district once, and some oftener.

I have granted dispensations to Lodges in pursuance of the powers in me vested, and have remitted all dues payable therefor to the Grand Secretary.

It is desirable that the time of election of officers should be changed so that all the Lodges elect their officers in June. The fact that the D. D. G. M. comes into office in the middle of the official year of many of the private Lodges compels him to visit them during the latter half of the year and thus throws the whole year's work almost entirely into the last six months.

Most, if not all, the Lodges have been wise in selecting the most intelligent and enthusiastic of their members as officers. A bright, painstaking and enthusiastic W. M., imbued with the spirit of Masonry and appreciating its lessons, will bring out the members and maintain interest in the Lodge work.

If the Secretary has like qualities the Lodge is assured of success.

When the sublime truths of Masonry are emphasized in the work by the Master and his Wardens the brethren are sure to be interested.

There is no more beautiful sight than that of the officers and members of the Lodge working together in harmony and enjoying the mutual respect and esteem of each other.

I take occasion to thank the Executive Officers of the Lodges in the district for their promptness in answering communications and assisting me in the discharge of my duties, and can truthfully state that with few exceptions they perform their duties carefully.

Masonry flourishes throughout the district. Its condition is not perfect in every detail, but still progressing and following its teachings ever onward and upward in the exemplification of those grand truths which are represented by the symbols of our Order, and which go so far to promote social intercourse, upbuilding of character, and the moral and intellectual development of the whole race.

We view with sadness the loss of several of our brethren during the last year, but though they are dead, yet they still speak by the example of their words and actions, and would have us remember that there is a land where the word farewell is never uttered and parting is unknown.

At the expense of the district a handsome set of regalia suitable to the rank of Past District Deputy Grand Master was presented by me to R. Wor. Bro. Curran Morrison, my predecessor in office.

I had arranged with R. W. Bro. Inwood, my colleague in Toronto East, District No. 111A, to hold a joint Lodge of Instruction in December, but owing to the death of my only brother early in that month, I was called away from home and detained so long that our project in this regard had to be abandoned, and as our official visits began early in January we had not another opportunity, much to our regret.

I have impressed upon all the Lodges the necessity of looking up the non-affiliates and trying to get them back to the Lodge, in order to maintain the influence and prestige of our Order.

I find in many cases the Lodges had made improvement in furniture and equipment in their Lodge rooms, and in this respect the comparison between my term of office and former years is altogether favorable as showing very marked improvements in this particular direction.

Foremost among these is Ashlar Lodge, whose premises at 801 Yonge street, Toronto, are now everything that could be desired, and speak volumes for Wor. Bro. Webster and his officers.

A source of great pleasure to me was to meet many of the older members of the Craft, brethren who in many cases have been among the founders and charter members of their respective Lodges, still retaining not a passive but an active interest in the welfare of their Mother Lodges. This is as it should be, and is in marked distinction to the cases where a brother having had the degrees conferred on him and possibly, enjoyed every honor in the gift of his brethren, permits his interest and enthusiasm to cease, becomes careless and irregular in his attendance, and the benefits of Masonry appear to be as much lost to him as though he had never seen Masonic light.

Fraternal visits between members of different Lodges I have encouraged, as by this means a greater degree of uniformity and perfection can be obtained.

I was delighted to find in nearly every Lodge I visited the active interest taken in the affairs of the Lodge by the Past Masters. They still continue to render valuable aid to the W. Masters and are pillars of strength to their Lodges.

Knowing that accuracy and uniformity in the work of our beautiful ritual is one of the greatest essentials, I devoted considerable effort to its attainment, and in my visits gave careful instruction where necessary, which was most acceptable to the brethren. I corrected whenever I found it necessary and complimented only where it was deserved.

During my visits I have impressed upon the officers the importance of having frequent practices on work such as the following: Steps and signs in the different degrees; floor work of deacons; questions and answers before an examining board; presentation of working tools; reciting the obligations, etc.

I believe no better means than these can be adopted for arousing and sustaining the interest of the members and for securing a good attendance at the regular meetings.

The harmony which prevails is clearly demonstrated by there not being one instance of a misunderstanding in the district reported to me; and this may be attributed largely to the efficient manner in which the officers govern their respective Lodges, as I know they are men of high moral standing and well qualified to occupy that dignified and honorable position where so much delicacy and tact is required.

I heartily believe in encouraging the social side of Masonry, and I think that the banqueting room is of high importance in promoting fraternal feeling. But I fear that in some instances the expenditure for expenses has been beyond the means of the Lodges and has tended to keep them in straitened circumstances.

Obviously a hard and fast rule for regulating the outlay in the banqueting room cannot be laid down; still the great disproportion in the accounts of some of the Lodges between the outlay for refreshments and that for charity is cause for reflection and readjustment.

I have heartily recommended the holding of festivals and concerts under the auspices of the Order to which ladies and others not Masons could be invited.

There is no doubt that these festivals are highly enjoyable, and will add greatly to the influence and prestige of the Order if they are carefully carried out.

In addressing the Lodges in this district I have in every instance, I think, explained the desire of the Grand Master that earnest efforts be made to restore suspended members to active usefulness in the Lodges.

So far as I have been able to learn, these appeals have not been without their effect. The ground I have taken is that if a worthy brother is unable to pay his dues his Lodge might from time to time cancel his liabilities. This can be done without humiliation to the brother and without record of his name or transaction. A motion could be made that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for a sum to pay the dues of a brother, and nobody but the Master and the Secretary need know the brother is. But if a member can pay his dues and will not there is no course open but that of suspension.

Such men have not the principles of Masonry in their hearts, and the Lodges are better without them than with them.

The prompt collection of dues is also, I find, of moment. If they are allowed to fall into arrears the attendance dwindles, zeal abates and the Lodge grows weak. This is probably the most common obstacle.

I regret very much that the practice of canvassing for office is still practiced to some extent in the district. It has been condemned in Grand Lodge and cannot be too strongly reprobated. An office conferred by the goodwill of the brethren is an evidence of respect and confidence, and, according to its importance, a testimonial of ability, but a personal request for votes is an acknowledgment that the brother could not on his merits obtain the suffrage of his brethren.

Systematic canvassing for candidates should be discouraged. It is impossible to say how far effort on behalf of any brother is permissible, but it is very evident that the use of systematic and sustained electioneering methods is calculated to create cliques and to injure the Order.

On Sunday, 24th June (St. John's Day), the Toronto Districts held a joint Church Service in St. James' Cathedral, where a service was held, presided over by His Lordship Bishop Sweatman. The sermon was preached by Bro. Prof. Wm. Clark (Trinity College), of Ionic Lodge, in presence of the M. W. the Grand Master and a large concourse, nearly 700, of distinguished brethren. The collection was in aid of the Hospital for Sick Children to reduce the liability of the former Toronto District to that Corporation, on the occasion of the institution of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Masonic cot upon which a balance amounting, it is stated, approximately to \$900, was overdue. The collection after payment of expenses netted \$150, which was duly remitted to the Hospital Treasurer, M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, who acknowledged it in due course in suitable terms.

Following the example of a distinguished P. D. D. G. M., and in his words I desire to speak in order to enter my earnest protest on the insufficiency of the teaching given to our candidates.

Nearly all are able to answer the set questions, a good

many can give the two obligations, and a few more can prove to the Wardens (without prompting by the Deacons) that they are in possession of the secrets of the degree, but here in the overwhelming majority of cases the instruction ends. The candidates are not taught the obligations in the third, nor do they subsequently pass any examination of this degree.

But above all, they know nothing of the harmony of the degrees, the meaning of any portions which are at all obscure, and they are ignorant of the symbolism of the Royal Art.

Masonry to such candidates has no meaning; it is a mere body, beautiful, perhaps, but without soul or life; and therefore powerless to exert any influence over their intellect or their lives. Is it any wonder that instead of Masons, enlightened by the truths of Masonry, governed by its laws, warmed by its hidden fires, guided by its traditions and precepts, ruled by its truths and influenced throughout their lives by its noble teaching, we have so many members who see in it merely a road to position an asset which may be utilized for their personal advantage, or at best a pleasant pastime for idle evenings, and who, when the one fall or the others fail (as they are all sure to do), if there be nothing else, grow indifferent and allow themselves to be suspended or take out their demits, not infrequently finishing by representing the Craft to the outside world as an institution in which there is nothing to attract or to hold, which has, indeed, been their experience. Such men have looked on the outside of the Temple and have seen even that through a mist but the doors to them have been closed; they may have got a passing glimpse of the casket, not a ray from the Jewel has ever been seen, nay, its very presence has not been suspected. We wonder that some of our Lodges do not prosper and we are surprised that we have difficulty in getting good workers or in awakening and sustaining any real enthusiasm on the side benches. I can bear witness to the effect produced on candidates by proper and systematic teaching which may begin even before the candidate enters the Lodge. Let us see to it that we do our teaching in this direction more thoroughly than has been our custom; the Light must come from the East. In this connection it is an open secret that Masters are some-

times installed before they are able to give even one degree, to say nothing of the three, and that they finish their year very much as they began it. What effect must such men have on the candidates and the welfare of the Craft?

The expenses incurred on my official visits have in most cases been promptly paid.

Early in my official year I began an agitation looking to the establishment of a Masonic Library in the Temple Building, Toronto, and am happy to be able to report that at a joint meeting of the two Toronto Districts a Library Board composed of myself as Chairman, M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson and R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson, was appointed, with power to add to our numbers, and with authority to request delivery from the Toronto Public Library Board to us for the benefit of the Craft of the books on Masonic Literature in their hands donated to them many years ago by the Craft in Toronto. In due course I trust the Library Board may succeed in establishing a good working library of Masonic literature.

I have had the pleasure during my term of office to "heal" two brethren who formerly owed allegiance to the "Ontario Grand Lodge." Bro. Lockhart, at Patterson Lodge, Thornhill, on 12th December, 1899, and Bro. Jos. Hope Raybould at Stanley Lodge on the 5th June, 1900. Both brethren have since affiliated and I trust and I believe will be worthy members of the Craft.

I found in many Lodges a disposition to announce to the candidate at the conclusion of the lecture on the tracing board by the Junior Warden that "There is also a charge founded on the excellence of our institution and the qualification of its members, which, however, as the evening is now advanced, this will be communicated to you at some other time."

Personally I have always endeavored to have the charge delivered to the candidate, and on occasions where no officer of the Lodge was prepared to deliver it I have delivered it myself.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 22: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. Raymond Walker, W. M.; W. Bro. Wm. Wesley Glass, I. P. M.; Bro. Robt. McClelland, S. W.; Bro. Robert Home, J. W.; W. Bro. Wm. Anderson, Chap-

lain; V. W. Bro. W. J. Hambly, Treasurer; Bro. W. R. P. Parker, Secretary; Bro. Frank Smith, Assistant Secretary; Bro. John McKerracher, S. D.; Bro. Frank Maile, J. D.; W. Bro. Daniel McDonald, D. of C.; Bro. J. N. Middleton, Organist; Bro. Samuel Wilkinson, S. S.; Bro. Norman Elder, J. S.; Bro. Jos. S. H. M. Meek, I. G.; Bro. John H. Pritchard, Tyler. On the occasion of my official visit the W. M. received me in a fraternal manner and exemplified for me the first degree, the ceremony being carefully and impressively performed. The financial position of the Lodge is greatly improved, and the W. M., officers and brothers of the Lodge are to be congratulated upon the fact that the Lodge is making satisfactory progress. In the past there is said to have been a considerable amount of external friction among the members, but I am happy to be able to report that these affairs have been amicably arranged and the outlook for the future is very auspicious. At the refreshment table a very large number of distinguished brethren were present, including the Grand Master, and a most enjoyable evening was the result. W. Bro. Walker in his year has initiated 24 candidates, 2 brethren have affiliated, there have been 3 resctorations, 2 demits have been granted, 5 members hav died, 7 have been suspended for non-payment of dues, one for unmasonic conduct. The Lodge receipts have increased from \$897.60 in 1899 to \$1,122.20 in 1900. On the 31st May, 1890, there was a balance on hand of \$47.38, which in 1890 has increased to \$183.06. Unfortunately the total balance outstanding for arrears has increased from \$213 in 1899 to \$272 in 1900. The average attendance has increased from 72 in 1898 to 98 in 1900. During the year the Lodge has expended \$88.04 for charity, of which \$50 was contributed to the Hospital for Sick Children. The books of the Secretary are well kept, neat and legible, and a credit to the Secretary, Bro. W. R. P. Parker.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54: This meets at Maple I visited this Lodge on the 13th March, being the regular meeting of the Lodge, and received a hearty and fraternal welcome from the Lodge. The 2nd and third degrees were conferred upon two most promising candidates in the persons of Bros. M'clea and Couper. While the work cannot be said to be absolutely letter

perfect, yet the degrees were very well exemplified and met with my hearty approval. A feature of the visit to this Lodge was a glimpse at the records of the Lodge since its formation under the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 5854. The records are particularly well kept and are a great credit to the Lodge. I was also pleased to see that the Lodge was in possession of a copy of M. W. Bro. Robertson's History of Freemasonry, a most elaborate treatise on Freemasonry in Canada, and one deserving of every commendation from the brethren in Canada. At the close of the Lodge a very pleasant repast was prepared and several extremely good speeches were made by members of the Lodge and visiting brethren, and altogether the evening concluded most happily. There have been but two initiations during the year, and one member having demitted and another died the membership remains stationary. The Lodge receipts have increased from \$74.65 in 1899 to \$114 in 1900. The disbursements have likewise increased from \$72.31 in 1899 to \$82.03 in 1900. There is, however, the sum of \$53 outstanding for dues as of the 31st of May, 1900, and as this amount is owing by 11 members of the Lodge it appears to me that a little sustained effort on the part of the executive officers of the Lodge would be in the interest of the Lodge by collecting this amount and thus regaining the interest of the brethren in arrears in their Lodge work, as I find that brethren in arrears for dues ordinarily fall off in their interest and do not attend the meetings of the lodge; thus the lodge is the loser, both financially and numerically. There is an insurance of \$1,800 on the Lodge property and the Lodge room is very comfortable and well equipped. The charitable subscriptions for the Lodge for the year amount to \$5, which was given to the Hospital for Sick Children.

Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. E. H. Briggs, W. M.; Wor. Bro. David Hoskins, I. P. M.; Bro. R. W. Clewlo, S. W.; Bro. Wm. Crichton, J. W.; Bro. Rev. A. B. Cahmbers, D.D., LL.B., Chaplain; Wor. Bro. Andrew Park, Treasurer; Bro. George H. Mitchell, Secretary; Bro. Dr. G. L. Ball, Assistant Secretary; Bro. Arthur Jones, S. D.; Bro. R. C. Harris, J.D.; Bro. Wm. McBean, D. of C.; Bro. Wm. J. Evans, I. G.; Bro. T. S. Young, S. S.;

Bro. J. Webber Payne, J. S.; Bro. J. H. Pearce, Organist; Bro. Jno. H. Pritchard, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on Thursday evening, the 1st of February. I had the pleasure of being introduced to the Lodge by the R. W. Bro. Richard Dinnis, P. D. D. G. M. and V. R. W. Bro. F. Gallow, two old and highly valued Masonic friends, and was cordially welcomed by the W. M. and received with grand honors. A bright young candidate in the person of Bro. Charles Sheriff was then initiated by the W. M. in a very creditable manner. The affairs of Rehoboam Lodge have been administered in an especially able manner for several years past, and I am of opinion that the present W. M. is a very worthy successor of those who have preceded him. In some few particulars I thought it necessary to make some suggestions on the work of the Lodge during the evening where I thought improvement could be made, and was pleased to have my remarks referred to subsequently by prominent members of the Lodge with much approval. On the 2nd of November I had also the pleasure of attending this Lodge in company with the Grand Master, the occasion being the investiture of V. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, M. P., with the suit of regalia as G. S. D. During the year the Lodge entertained the brethren of Erie Lodge of Buffalo, New York State, when many warm friendships were formed. The Lodge has now attained the membership of 230, having initiated this year 4 candidates affiliated and 1 restored; 4 members have demitted, 3 have died and 9 have been suspended for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have fallen off from the sum of \$1,399.87 on the 31st of May, 1899, to the sum of \$1,016.64 in May, 1900, while their disbursements have increased from the sum of \$1,600.52 in 1900, having still, however, the substantial sum of \$2,482.02 on hand. The balance outstanding for arrears of dues has decreased from \$376.22 in 1899 to \$201.24 in 1900. The average attendance per meeting has increase from 62 in 1899 to 65 in 1900. During the year the Lodge has expended \$77.53 in charity, of which \$25 went to the Hospital for Sick Children and \$25 to the sufferers by the recent Ottawa-Hull fire. Bro. George H. Mitchell is Secretary of the Lodge and attends to his duties with the utmost dispatch, his books and lodge records being models of neatness and unexcelled in the district.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. J. Alva Carveth, W. M.; W. Bro. John J. Gee, I. P. M.; Bro. George McLeish, S. W.; Bro. J. W. Siddall, J. W.; Bro. J. D. Bland, Chaplain; Wor. Bro. Samuel Brown, Treasurer; Bro. Thomas A. Duff, Secretary; Bro. S. N. Hughes, Assistant Secretary; Bro. T. D. Jackson, S. D.; W. Bro. R. J. Reade, J. D.; V. W. Bro. E. M. Carleton, D. of C.; Bro. D. A. Chapman, Organist; Bro. L. A. Archambault, I. G.; Bro. Wm. Cooper, S. S.; Bro. R. F. Segsworth, J. S.; Bro. J. H. Pritchard, Tyler. I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting on Tuesday evening, January 16. The W. M. initiated a candidate in a highly commendable manner and makes an admirable presiding officer. My predecessor has described this as a sterling lodge, which does good work, and I fully concur in his remarks. I regret that by some mishap, the particulars of which I do not know. I have not been put in possession of the statistics of the Lodge, in compliance with my request, and consequently am unable to give definite figures; but speaking generally the Lodge is progressing satisfactorily and have some bright officers in line for the chair.

True Blue Lodge, No. 98, Bolton: I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting on the 13th of April. The W. M. worked the second degree and passed Bros. Miller and Judge, two especially bright young brethren, to the second degree. It is evident from the work in this Lodge, that they are to some extent out of touch with lodge work in the district, and I took occasion to recommend very strictly to them that they should make a practice of visiting some of their Sister Lodges in the neighborhood in order to improve their method of doing work. I also drew their attention to several points where I thought substantial improvement might be made, and I feel satisfied that what I said on that occasion will bear good fruit. The lodge premises are particularly comfortable, and it is matter of congratulation that the brethren own their Lodge free from debt. The Past Masters of the Lodge are a source of great strength, and on them much dependence must be placed for the future success of the Lodge. I was sorry not to meet W. Bro. Roberts, the Secretary of the Lodge, who is, I am informed, one of the pillars of the Lodge. The membership has increased from 42 in 1899 to 48 in 1900.

The Lodge receipts in 1899 were \$140.56 and in 1900 were \$135. The number of members in arrears for dues, however, reaches the astonishing figure of 35, though it is matter of congratulation that the balances outstanding for arrears has decreased from \$100 in 1899 to \$90 in 1900, and the average attendance has increased from 12 per meeting in 1899 to 13 per meeting in 1900. The Lodge have their property insured to the extent of \$900, having also expended for charity during the year the sum of \$5, which was donated to the Sick Children's Hospital.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg: I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 12th March, 1900. It may be remembered that a day or two before that the deepest snowfall of the year took place and the season was thereafter for a short time very cold. I drove from Richmond Hill, a distance of fourteen miles, and owing to the state of the roads arrived somewhat late at the Lodge. There was a very small meeting and no work to do. I delivered an address to the brethren, and did what I could to inspire them to renewed efforts. For some time this Lodge has been at a standstill, while it is but fair to the brethren to say that there doesn't appear to be much material in that neighborhood for them to work on. They didn't initiate a candidate in 1899 or in 1900 up to June, but I have since been pleased to learn from the genial Secretary, W. Bro. Dr. Brereton, that a very good application has been received and accepted and will be initiated at their next meeting. The Lodge receipts have increased slightly in 1900, being \$32, as against \$26 in 1899. In like manner, however, the disbursements have increased, and consequently the balance on hand in 1900 amounted to but \$55. Five members are more than twelve months in arrears for dues, which have increased in the year from \$20 to \$25. The average attendance per meeting has remained stationary at 8 for two years. The Lodge premises are particularly well situated and are very comfortable, indeed, being well furnished and well equipped. They are insured for \$300. During the year the Lodge has expended \$5 for charity, which they contributed to the Hospital for Sick Children.

York Lodge, No. 156, Eglinton: Officers, A. L. 5900

—W. Bro. H. H. Ball, W. M.; W. Bro. W. E. Hofland, I. P. M.; Bro. A. H. Dixon, S. W.; Bro. T. Armstrong, J. W.; Bro. F. C. Millar, Chap.; W. Bro. R. W. Hull, Treas.; R. J. Gibson, Sec.; W. Bro. John Burke, D. of C.; Bro. C. Moseley, S. D.; Bro. J. Brierley, J. D.; Bro. W. J. Douglas, S. S.; Bro. W. S. Dalby, J. S.; Bro. A. J. Brown, I. G.; Bro. W. W. Edwards, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on Friday, 20th April, 1900. Among the Past Masters present were W. Brethren W. C. Hofland, D. Robertson, W. Muston, J. E. Hopkins and V. W. Bro. C. C. Norris, besides several visiting brethren, by whom I was introduced to the Lodge. A splendid specimen of young Canadian manhood in the person of Bro. W. E. Hopkins was then initiated by the W.M. Among other interested spectators on the occasion was Bro. Hopkins father. At the conclusion of the work I addressed the Lodge, expressing myself as well satisfied with the exemplification of the degree, which was indeed well rendered. The membership has increased from 96 in 1899 to 97 in 1900, and although there have been 3 initiations, 1 affiliation and 2 restorations, yet there have likewise been 1 demit and 4 members suspended for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts this year amount to \$345.25, as against \$439.70 in the preceding year. There are 15 members over 12 months in arrears for dues, which to my mind is simply inexcusable in a lodge of this membership. Unquestionably the executive officers of the Lodge should see to it that this blot on their escutcheon is removed as soon as possible. The Lodge premises are convenient and fairly well equipped, and are insured to the extent of \$400. During the year \$60 have been contributed to charity, of which \$55 was contributed to the Hospital for Sick Children. The Secretary, Bro. R. J. Gibson, was absent on the occasion of my visit owing to the death of his mother, but is an efficient officer, and I have no doubt whatever will in due course be a bright ornament to the Lodge when he reaches the chair.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton: Officers, 1900—W. Bro. George W. Jackson, W. M.; W. Bro. W. H. McFadden, I. P.M.; Bro. A. J. Hood, S. W.; Bro. R. E. Heggie, J. W.; W. Bro. J. G. Roberts, Chaplain; W. Bro. W. W. Woods, Treasurer; V. W. Bro. A. Morton,

Secretary; Bro. S. Dolson, S. D.; Bro. H. E. Roberts, J. D.; W. Bro. J. J. Manning, D. of C.; Bro. T. H. Shields, S. S.; Bro. T. B. Peaker, J. S.; Bro. W. J. Fenton, I. G.; Bro. R. Madden, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 20th February, 1900, and was introduced by V.W. Bro. McKechnie and W. Bro. McFadden. I had the pleasure also of being accompanied to the Lodge by Bro. Wm. McCulla, an old and highly valued personal friend, whose son, Bro. John McCulla, is at present in the Transvaal with the Second Canadian Contingent. There being no work for my inspection, I requested the W.M. to raise the Lodge to the third degree, and after it was lowered again to the first degree I requested him to deliver the obligation and the Junior Warden to deliver the lecture on the tracing board. The work was extremely well done by both officers and reflects high credit upon their Lodge. The Lodge premises are very conveniently situated and very comfortable, indeed. The membership remains stationary at 71, although two candidates have been initiated and one member restored, yet there have been two demits and one suspension for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have fallen off from \$218.50 in 1899 to \$119 in 1900, while the disbursements show a commendable decrease from \$208.66 in 1899 to \$184.33 in 1900. The balance on hand has increased from \$76.02 in 1899 to \$106.94 in 1900. There are 12 members in arrears for dues, and the total arrearage has decreased from \$20.50 in 1899 to \$19 in 1900. The average attendance per meeting remains stationary at 22. There is an insurance of \$400 on the Lodge property. During the year the sum of \$15 has been expended for charity, of which \$10 was donated to the Red Cross Fund and \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital. In addition to this the members of the Lodge contributed personally \$36 as a purse to Bro. John McCulla on his leaving with his regiment for services in South Africa. They likewise supplemented the above-mentioned grant by \$10 to the Red Cross Fund by the sum of \$41 contributed by members individually. The general condition of Masonry in the locality may be described as fairly good, and the prospects for the future the same. The Lodge is particularly fortunate in having for Secretary a thorough-going whole-hearted Mason, V. W.

Bro. Morton, who realizes the responsibility of his position and in every way rises equal to the occasion. The Past Masters of this Lodge are also particularly loyal to the Lodge, and a visit at any time is a source of much pleasure to the visitor.

Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto: Officers, 5900—W. Bro. A. F. Webster, W. M.; W. Bro. A. R. Murphy, I. P. M.; Bro. A. Y. Scott, S. W.; Bro. M. B. Aylesworth, J. W.; Bro. Rev. A. U. de Pencier, Chaplain; R. W. Bro. Benjamin Aellen, Treasurer; Bro. Thomas Reid, Secretary; Bro. W. S. Ziller, S. D.; Bro. A. C. Fairweather, J. D.; W. Bro. H. R. O'Hara, D. of C.; Bro. A. L. Lyon, S. S.; Bro. C. K. Blackwood, J. S.; Bro. R. G. Stapells, Organist; Bro. J. D. Bailey, I. G.; Bro. Wm. Stanley, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 22nd of May, 1900, and was introduced by W. Bro. H. R. O'Hara and W. Bro. Hull, both esteemed personal friends. The candidate of the evening, Bro. R. E. Gagen, is, while yet a young man, an old personal friend, having been associated with me professionally since boyhood. He was initiated by the W. M., and with all the officers of the Lodge in their respective places. The work of the W. M. and each of his officers was simply perfect. I cannot speak too highly of W. Bro. Webster, who presides over the affairs of this Lodge with dignity and an easy grace and pleasant manner, which in itself goes a long way to secure that harmony so essential to the success of any lodge. No lodge in the district is more promising than this Lodge for material coming on to fill the chairs, which have been occupied with so much lustre by the many distinguished Past Masters of the Lodge. My distinguished colleague, R. W. Bro. Inwood, D. D. G. M. of the Toronto District, was also present on this occasion and heartily endorsed my approval of the lodge work. I notice from the work of my predecessor that the work of Bro. Thomas Reid, who was at that time Senior Deacon of the Lodge, was stated to be excellent and performed with military precision. Bro. Reid has since been promoted to be Secretary of the Lodge, and the excellence which characterizes his work in the subordinate position is apparent in his present position. I look forward with much pleasure to Bro. Reid's future career in Masonry. The membership of the Lodge has

increased from 166 in 1899 to 189 in 1900. Twenty-four candidates have been initiated; there have been 7 affiliations and 3 restorations. Against this there have been 7 demits, 2 deaths and 2 suspensions for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have increased from \$1,220.65 in 1899 to \$1,904.30 in 1900. While the Lodge disbursements have also increased from \$1,118.05 in 1899 to \$2,430.02 in 1900. During the past year the premises of the Lodge have been entirely renovated and at present time there is no more beautiful lodge room in the country. Everything has been arranged in the most modern and approved style, and reflects the greatest credit upon Wor. Bro. Webster, R. Wor. Benjamin Allen and the other members of the committee who were associated with them in the work. The Lodge has a substantial balance of \$4,262.44 on hand, as against the sum of \$5,096.44 in 1899. Nineteen members are in arrears for dues amounting to \$332.50. The amount is larger than it should be, and I trust my successor will be able to note a substantial reduction. The average attendance per meeting has been 45 this year as against 43 last year. During the year the Lodge has expended the sum of \$205.35 for charity, of which \$25 has been contributed to the Red Cross Fund, \$25 to the Children's Hospital, and \$25 to the Ottawa-Hull Fire Fund. The candidates who have been initiated during the year are a particularly bright set of young men, and the prospects for the future are unexcelled in the district.

Patterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill: I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting held on the 14th December, A. D. 1899. The particular business which took me to Thornhill on that night was for the purpose of healing Bro. Lockhart, a member of the former Ontario Lodge of Maons. I have made reference to this ceremony. I was introduced to the Lodge by W. Bros. Langstaff and Steele, two of the mainstays of Patterson Lodge, and was very kindly received by the W. M. on behalf of the Lodge. Owing to the serious illness of Mr. George White, a candidate whose application had been received and favorably dealt with, no regular work was done, but as Bro. Lockhart was somewhat uninformed with the work, I directed the ceremony of initiation to be proceeded with, him

as the candidate. The work was extremely well done by Worshipful Bro. Fisher, who was then W. M., and reflected great credit upon the Lodge. For some time the affairs of this Lodge had been in a languishing condition owing to the removal to Toronto of a considerable number of the members, but more recently prosperity has returned and the Lodge is now making substantial progress. During the evening a handsome Past Master's Jewel was presented to W. Bro. Langstaff, who was leaving the neighborhood of Thornhill. His place as Secretary has since been taken by a worthy successor, Bro. Dr. Dame, formerly of Toronto. During the course of the evening I had the pleasure of presenting a considerable number of Master Masons' certificates which had been received from the Grand Secretary. During the year there have been 6 initiations and 1 demit. Lodge receipts in 1899 amounted to \$107.60 and in 1900 to \$124. The disbursements have decreased from \$105 in 1899 to \$89 in 1900. Two members are in arrears for dues for more than twelve months and several others for a lesser time. The arrears have increased during the year from \$46 to \$64.50. I cautioned the brethren to be careful about the collections of dues and the inevitable result in case they were not so. The Lodge room is comfortable and fairly well equipped, and the property of the Lodge is insured to the extent of \$200. During the year the Lodge subscribed the sum of \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital. The prospects of Masonry in the locality may be described as fairly good and improving. On the 15th of May I granted a dispensation to the brethren to attend a church service in Masonic regalia. An application was received by me for a dispensation to permit the initiation of Mr. John W. Adam, of the Postoffice Department, Toronto. Having no authority to grant such dispensation, I interviewed the M. W. Grand Master about granting the same, and after thoroughly explaining the matter to him he stated that it has been his uniform practice to refuse to grant such a dispensation and that he would not do so in this case, of which I duly advised the Secretary. The books and records of the Lodge are well kept, and there is first-rate material in the Lodge, so that the interests of Masonry may be regarded as secure in the hands of Patterson Lodge. Re-

cently Bro. John Drury, who at the time of my former visit occupied the position of Junior Warden, has been elevated to the chair, and I am satisfied that my successor will be able to strongly commend his work when he comes to report on the affairs of the Lodge.

Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King: I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 9th April, 1900. Upon my entrance to the Lodge I was warmly welcomed by the W. M. and brethren. Owing to indisposition the Worshipful Master was unable to perform the work of the evening, which consisted of raising a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, which was most impressively and correctly performed by the Wor. Bro. Crossly. The membership remains stationary at 40, as, although there were 4 initiations during the year and 1 affiliation, there were 4 demits and 1 death. The financial affairs of the Lodge are in a fairly satisfactory condition. The receipts in 1899 somewhat exceeded those for 1900, being \$264.25, against \$223.16. The disbursements in 1900 amounted to \$162.45, as against \$155.97 in 1899. There was a balance on hand on the 31st May, 1900, of \$286.79, as against \$226.08 in 1899. The outstanding arrears on the 31st May, 1900, consisted of \$30.50, as against \$35 in the preceding year. The average attendance per meeting has increased during the past year from 24 to 27. The Lodge Room is very comfortable and the Lodge property is insured to the extent of \$300. During the year the Lodge contributed the sum of \$5 to the Hospital for Sick Children, and also \$5 in response to an appeal by chain letter from Dufferin Lodge, No. 338. I strongly deprecated the chain letter system of collection and received assurance from the W. M. that in the future such appeals would be refused. I have pleasure in reporting that the general condition of Masonry in the locality is excellent and prospects for the future are very promising. The Lodge records are very carefully kept by Bro. A. Davis, Secretary, and the Lodge is particularly fortunate in having in him and a number of other young brethren a splendid set of men coming on for the future. After the work of the evening was concluded a sumptuous repast was provided by the Brethren, at which very able addresses were delivered by Bro. the Hon. E. J. Davis, Commissioner of Crown Lands, a member of

the Lodge, and a number of other Brethren, among them being several distinguished Brethren from neighboring Lodges.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston: W. Bro. T. E. Elliott, W. M.; W. Bro. A. J. Pritchard, I. P. M.; Bro. Jos. T. Franks, S. W.; Bro. Wilson Wilby, J. W.; Bro. Walter Reid, Chaplain; W. Bro. Edward Eagle, Treas.; W. Bro. R. H. Leighton, Sec.; Bro. J. Gardhouse, S.D.; Bro. A. Lamb, J. D.; Bro. John Crossland, I. G.; Bro. W. P. Bull, S. S.; Bro. Charles Pickett, J. S.; Bro. E. J. May, O. G. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 11th April, and was received in a very happy manner by the W. M., who exemplified the first degree for me in a manner which reflected great credit upon him. The Lodge premises are in a first-rate condition, convenient and very fairly equipped. During the year the Lodge has subscribed \$10 to the Sick Children's Hospital. The condition of Masonry in the locality is fair and the prospects may be said to be very good. In the words of my predecessor, "W. Bro. Elliott is the right man in the right place and infuses a large amount of genuine Masonic enthusiasm into his officers and members. The Secretary also performs his work in a capable manner.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge: I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on Friday, 16th March, being the day of Full Moon. W. Bro. Morton was in the chair, and a considerable number of visiting brethren were likewise present. I addressed the Lodge at some length, and W. Bro. Agar, the able Secretary of the Lodge, has been pleased to state in his minutes on my address. "So good and honorable his appearance and manner prepossessing, and on the whole made a favorable impression." There being no candidate, I authorized the W. M. to perform the ceremony of initiation. W. Bro. Fisher volunteered for that purpose. The work was extremely well exemplified by the W. M., and the Junior Warden's lecture was delivered by W. Bro. J. J. Watson in first-class style. The charge was very ably delivered by W. Bro. F. Smith. W. Bro. Agar, in his minutes, has said: "The Rt. W. D. D. G. M. resumed his discourse, and among other things congratulatory, he said that the work of

the W. M. was almost letter perfect; the rendition of the Junior Warden's lecture was a most enjoyable affair, and he congratulated Bro. Watson on the splendid manner in which he rendered the lecture. It was first-class and equal almost to any he had heard in Toronto. He also commended the work of W. Bro. Smith. The R. W. M. Bro. recommended the study of Masonic Literature by reading books and lending them among members, and was happy to say that he would be able to give as good a report of Blackwood Lodge as any of his predecessors had done. The R. W. Bro. looked through the Secretary's other books and made favorable comments thereon. Some lively and pleasing conversations occupied a few moments, the impression left behind being that the R. W. Bro. McPherson was up to the standard and almost equal to the silver-tongued M. W. G. M., E. T. Malone, himself." The membership has decreased from 34 in 1898 to 33 in 1899. There has been no initiation during 1899. Although one candidate was accepted, circumstances prevented him from being present. It is expected that he will be initiated at the next meeting. The Lodge receipts in 1900, however, amounted to \$75.69, as against \$111 in 1899. Disbursements have increased in 1900 to \$79.70 from 40.69 in 1899. Six members are more than twelve months in arrears, which have increased from \$57.04 in 1899 to \$61.16 in 1900. The approach to the Lodge is extremely bad, but once inside the Lodge presents a cheerful and pleasing aspect. The brethren have allowed their insurance to expire. I strongly recommend that it be renewed. The general condition of Masonry in the locality is good except that but little progress is being made numerically. It is, however, more promising. I am informed, at the present time than for the last sixteen years.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills: I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting held in the Masonic Hall, Lambton Mills, Tuesday, 13th February, 1900. W. Bro. Anderson and officers and members of Stanley Lodge, Toronto Junction, were visitors on the same occasion. W. Bro. Grav. in the absence of the candidate for the third degree, acted in his place. The degree was conferred by W. M. W. Bro. Rice and the work was admirably performed. The junior officers of the Lodge are adept in work, and I have every reason to believe

that my successor will have little fault to find with the work of this Lodge. When the Lodge had been reduced to the first degree I delivered an address and made some few suggestions regarding the work. I had the pleasure of being in the Lodge while some general business was transacted, and the reputation which W. Bro. Rice has made for himself as a first-rate executive officer was well maintained. The membership has increased from 58 in 1899 to 65 in 1900, there having been 1 initiation, 1 affiliation and 3 restorations. The Lodge receipts are somewhat lower in 1900 than in 1899, being \$219.10, as against \$275.70, the disbursements having increased from \$188.75 in 1899 to \$206.80 for 1900, and the balance outstanding for arrears of dues from \$172.70 on the 31st May, 1899, to \$193.90 in 1900. Eight members are more than 12 months in arrears for dues, and I would counsel W. Bro. Rice and his Board of General Purposes to leave no stone unturned to reduce this large amount by steady and well-directed efforts. The average attendance per meeting has increased from 25 in 1898 to 30 in 1899. The Lodge premises are comfortable and well equipped and are insured to the extent of \$1,000. During the year \$10 was subscribed to the Sick Children's Hospital. The condition of Masonry is certainly improving in the territory over which Mimico Lodge has jurisdiction. Since the 1st of March the progress has been steady and the candidates are good types of young Canadian manhood. A reverend and highly-esteemed member of the Methodist Church received his third degree shortly before my official visit. I am informed that three or four applications from excellent men are expected, and the members are discussing the question of improving their Lodge building, which is now free from debt. The condition of and prospects for Masonry in the locality are certainly brighter than for many years past.

River Park Lodge, No. 356, Streetsville: W. Bro. F. A. Brown, W. M.; W. Bro. W. Couse, I. P. M.; Bro. Jos. Drennan, S. W.; Bro. J. W. Forbes, J. W.; Wor. Bro. R. H. McClung, Chaplain; Bro. F. W. Morgan, Treasurer; Wor. Bro. Wm. Taylor, Secretary; Bro. T. H. Goodison, S. D.; Bro. M. S. Mercer, I. D.; Bro. C. W. Switzer, D. of C.; Bro. R. M. Parkinson, S. S.; Bro. T. A. Johnstone, J. S.; Bro. D. McCaugh-

rine, I. G.; Bro. James Miller, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on Tuesday, the 12th of June, 1900. In addition to myself there were other visiting brethren from other parts of the Province. I was introduced by W. Bros. McClung and Congden. W. Bro. Brown then initiated Mr. James McKee, a candidate with whose appearance and intelligence I was well pleased. The work was very satisfactorily performed not only by the W.M., but also by the Junior Warden and Junior Deacon. There being none of the members of the Lodge prepared to deliver the charge to the newly-initiated candidate, I delivered it myself, as I consider that the ceremony of initiation is not complete without it. At the conclusion of the work I addressed the Lodge at some length on the dignity and importance of Freemasonry, and gave what I regarded as useful, information to the officers on the proper discharge of their duties. The utmost harmony prevails, and the Lodge is a pleasant one, indeed, to visit. Bro. Junior Warden gives promise of being a great light in Free Masonry, and I am satisfied he will be a great credit to his lodge in years to come. W. M. Taylor performs the Secretary's duties in the Lodge and is veritably the father of Freemasonry in that locality. Indefatigable in the discharge of his duties, he well merits the respect and esteem in which he is universally held by the brethren of his Lodge, and, indeed, by all those who enjoy his acquaintance. The membership has increased from 33 in 1899 to 36 in 1900, there having been two initiations and one restoration. The Lodge receipts have fallen off from \$136 in 1899 to \$88.50 in 1900, while the lodge disbursements have increased from \$53.70 in 1899 to \$86.95 in 1900. Thirteen members are more than twelve months in arrears for dues, and this I don't consider satisfactory. The average attendance per meeting has fallen from 10 in 1899 to 9 in 1900. The Lodge premises are convenient and comfortably arranged and fairly well equipped. There is an insurance on the property of \$100. During the year \$5 was subscribed to the Sick Children's Hospital. The general condition of Masonry in the locality may be described as good and the prospect for the future is fair.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326. Toronto: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. R. A. Donald, W. M.; W. Bro. Alex Stewart,

I. P. M.; Bro. John Bastedo, S. W.; Bro. Malcolm J. Cockburn, J. W.; M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Treas.; W. Bro. Wilton C. Eddis, Sec.; Bro. W. S. Milne, Assistant Secretary; Bro. O. F. Rice, S. D.; Bro. T. McQuillan, J. D.; W. Bro. Henry A. Taylor, D. of C.; Bro. R. G. Stapells, Organist; Bro. J. W. Baker, Assistant Organist; Bro. E. R. Dransefeld, S. S.; Bro. J. W. S. Corley, J. S.; Bro. E. W. Bruce, I. G.; W. Bro. J. B. Hay, Chap.; Bro. J. H. Pritchard, Tyler. This being my mother lodge, I have, as might be expected, visited it several times during my official year. I have paid an official visit, however, at the regular meeting held on Friday, 22nd June, 1900. The work of the evening consisted of the initiation of three candidates, one of whom was initiated by the W. M. and the others by W. Bro. C. H. Hohl and W. I. Anderson. The work was very well done, and the Junior Warden's lecture was admirably delivered by Bro. M. J. Cockburn, the Junior Warden. It is a coincidence of which I am somewhat proud that this, being my Mother Lodge, is also a Lodge of which the present Most W. G. M., Most W. Bro. E. T. Malone, is also a member; indeed he is my father in Masonry, and it has been a very great pleasure, indeed, to me to act as his District Deputy. When I was initiated on the 22nd October, 1888, he then occupied the distinguished position to which my brethren of the district have since elected me. Zetland Lodge has now reached the proud position of being third in numerical strength on the register of the G. L. of Canada, the membership having increased from 292 in 1899 to 314 in 1900. While there were 32 initiations during 1900 and 6 affiliations, there have been 8 demits, 2 deaths and 6 suspensions for non-payment of dues. Death during the year has claimed two distinguished Past Masters in the persons of W. Bro. J. T. Jones, my Masonic God father, having been the predecessor of Most W. Bro. E. T. Malone, and also W. Bro. John Fletcher, than him no better Mason ever belonged to Zetland Lodge. The Lodge receipts in 1899 amounted to \$2,680.85, and in 1900 to \$2,895.65. The disbursements in 1899 amounted to \$1,070.08 and in 1900 to \$2,709.81. The balance on hand has increased from \$3,010.46 in 1899 to \$3,044.89 in 1900. The balance outstanding for arrears of dues as discussed was \$349 on the 31st May, 1899, to \$234 on the same date

in 1900, although there are 35 members over 12 months in arrears for dues. The average attendance per meeting has remained stationary at 58. During the year the Lodge has expended \$170.28 in charity, \$50 to the sufferers by the Hull-Ottawa fire and also contributed the sum of \$2,000 in gold to endow a cot in perpetuity to be known as the Zetland Masonic Cot in the Sick Children's Hospital. This donation was made at the regular meeting in March to mark the 25th anniversary of the Lodge, and is perhaps unparalleled in the annals of any Blue Lodge in the jurisdiction of the G. L. On that occasion the Junior Warden's lecture was delivered by W. Bro. J. B. Have, acting as Junior Warden to a class of 25 entered apprentices, being one to represent each year since the formation of the Lodge. In June the brethren of Zetland Lodge paid a fraternal visit to the members of Frank R. Lawrence, No. 797, meeting at Rochester, of the City of New York. Nothing could exceed the courtesy of the Rochester brethren, and those members of the Zetland who were fortunate enough to be able to attend on the occasion will ever remember with feelings of deep gratitude the unbounded hospitality which was displayed on that occasion by the brethren of Rochester. The prospects for Zetland Lodge are of the brightest, and it is with pleasure that I congratulate W. Bro. Donald on the success which has attended his energy during the year. The Lodge is likewise fortunate in having the Wardens' chairs well filled, so for years to come there is no dearth of material from which a presiding officer may be drawn. Wor. Bro. Eddis makes a model Secretary. The Lodge is likewise membership strong in the wisdom and loyalty of the long line of distinguished Past Masters.

Occident Lodge, No. 346, Toronto: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. J. Muir, W. M.; W. Bro. W. J. A. Lake, I. P. M.; Bro. H. G. Brown, S. W.; Bro. T. Barber, J. W.; V. W. Bro. R. Charlton, Chaplain; V. W. Bro. J. R. Dunn, Treasurer; Bro. John Lillie, Secretary; Bro. W. E. Smith, S. D.; Bro. C. L. Rosevear, J. D.; Bro. D. K. McLean, I. G.; W. Bro. E. J. B. Duncan, D. of C.; Bro. R. G. Stapells, Organist; Bro. W. J. King, S. S.; Bro. H. C. Mainprice, J. S.; Bro. C. C. Wightman, Tyler. I visited this Lodge on the occasion of their regular meeting on the 17th of Janu-

ary, 1900. The brethren turned out in force, and I received no more loyal welcome in the district than on the occasion of my visit to this Lodge. W. Bro. Muir makes an admirable presiding officer and conducts the affairs of the Lodge with expedition and tact. The only feature which cast a shade on the pleasure of the meeting was the fact that two candidates were rejected. The W. M. performed the third degree in a truly splendid manner, being the occasion of the first performance of work by him in the chair after his election. The work was practically letter perfect, and he was very ably supported, indeed, by his subordinate officers. In due course it is to be hoped that both Wardens will receive the confidence of their brethren and be elected to the chair, as they are evidently well schooled. I took occasion during the course of my remarks, after passing some well-earned compliments, to impress upon the brethren the high privilege which they enjoyed in admitting or rejecting candidates, and from the spirit in which my remarks were received I have every reason to expect that good will result. Bro. John Lilly, the Secretary, performs his duties admirably and his books are neat and well kept. The financial statement of the Occident and St. George's Lodges hall board was presented, and makes a very favorable showing. During the year the board has received several grants from these Lodges amounting to \$130, which has been judiciously expended in making necessary repairs furnishing new committee rooms and completely renewing the apparatus of the refreshment rooms. The decoration of the hall has greatly improved its appearance and reflects great credit on the brethren who have the work in charge. The best of good feeling prevails and the prospects for the future are exceedingly bright. During the year I had the pleasure of approving some amendments to the By-laws of the Lodge, which I trust will be of advantage to the Lodge. The membership has increased from 153 in 1899 to 154 in 1900, there having been 9 initiations and 2 affiliations, against 7 demits, 2 deaths and 1 suspension for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have decreased slightly from \$986.70 in 1899 to \$941.45 in 1900, while the disbursements are substantially lower, being \$838.50 in 1900, against \$1,09.95 in 1899. The balance outstanding for arrears in

1899 amounted to the astonishing sum of \$547.50, which, however, has been reduced during the year to \$478.15. Twelve members are over 12 months in arrears for dues. The average attendance per meeting has increased during the year from 43 to 44; \$15 has been expended for charity and \$10 for other Masonic relief. The prospects for Occident in the future are excellent.

Alpha Lodge, No. 384, Parkdale: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. Robt. Ross, W. M.; W. Bro. J. W. Isaacs, 1. P. M.; Bro. F. Blackburne, S. W.; Bro. J. G. McDonnell, J. W.; Bro. John Reed, Chaplain; W. Bro. John Gray, Treasurer; V. W. Bro. E. J. Voss, Secretary; Bro. F. E. Luke, S. D.; Bro. R. Thompson, J. D.; Bro. R. E. Jamieson, S. S.; Bro. J. F. Barnum, J. S.; Bro. Wm. Greig, D. of C.; Bro. W. J. Rickaby, Organist; Bro. R. J. W. Barker, I. G.; Bro. J. Davies, Tyler. I visited this Lodge at their regular meeting on Thursday, the 2nd of April. W. Bro. Ross on the same evening entertained a very large number of visiting brethren, and the evening throughout was most enjoyable. One candidate was initiated by the W. M. in good style, and in an impressive manner. The floor work of the Junior Deacon was excellent. Bro. Junior Warden delivered his lecture perfectly, and the charge was impressively delivered by W. Bro. Colonel Gray. The membership has increased from 190 in 1899 to 213 in 1900, there having been 23 initiations, 10 affiliations and 3 restorations, against 10 demits, 3 deaths and 2 suspensions for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have increased from \$1,221.20 in 1899 to \$1,378.35 in 1900, as over the Lodge disbursements from \$965.12 in 1899 to \$1,043.62 in 1900. There are 45 members over 12 months in arrears for dues, which on the 31st May, 1899, amounted to \$352.30, since reduced to \$348. This is highly unsatisfactory, and no time should be lost in setting to work to correct it. The average attendance of members per meeting has increased from 45 in 1899 to 47 in 1900. The Lodge premises since Zeta Lodge has come to meet in the same room are much improved and very conveniently arranged. There is an increase of \$1,000 on the the Lodge property. During the year the sum of \$111.35 has been expended for charity, of which \$50 was donated to the National Patriotic Fund and \$20 to the Sick Children's Hospital. The general condition of Free-

masonry in the locality is prosperous. Candidates are numerous and of good quality, and with care and discretion in selection of those to be initiated there is no reason to doubt a continuance of Alpha's prosperity.

Stanley Lodge, No. 426, Toronto Junction: Officers for 1900—W. Bro. A. J. Anderson, W. M.; W. Bro. A. H. Perfect, I. P. M.; Bro. J. W. Wansbrough, S. W.; Bro John Paterson, J. W.; Bro. F. P. Gassion, Chaplain; W. Bro. G. W. Clendenan, Treasurer; Bro. Allan H. Royce, Secretary; Bro. F. B. Goodman, Assistant Secretary; Bro. G. S. Martin, S. D.; Bro. W. L. Joy, J. D.; W. Bro. J. A. Ellis, D. of C.; Bro. J. S. Hill, Choir Master; Bro. T. C. Tinline, I. G.; Bro. J. T. McMulkin, S. S.; Bro. F. C. Colbeck, J. S.; Bro. Thomas Prince, Tyler. I was to have attended the regular meeting of this Lodge on the 6th of February, 1900, but was prevented by indisposition. In this emergency I called upon my esteemed predecessor, R. W. Bro. Curran Morrison, to attend in my place, which he very kindly agreed to do. His report is as follows: "At your request I have visited Stanley Lodge last night and was received as your representative in truly loyal style, especially by Wor. Bro. Anderson, his officers and members. A brother was raised to the sublime degree by the W. M. in a manner which reflected great credit upon himself and his subordinates. The ritual was closely adhered to and what to my mind is of even greater importance, the whole work was most impressively rendered. There was a large attendance of both members and visitors, and the W. M. expressed himself in kindly terms about yourself and deeply regretted your enforced absence on the occasion. The books are kept neatly and correctly by the Secretary, and the Lodge is imbued with proper spirit, which is of itself a guarantee of continued prosperity. I need scarcely add that my visit was a great source of pleasure to myself personally." I take this occasion to reiterate my thanks to R. W. Bro. Morrison for his kindness to me on that occasion. I was, however, enabled to pay an official visit to the Lodge on the 5th of June, when Bro. Jos. Hope Raybold was duly healed and a candidate was initiated by the W. M. in faultless style. W. Bro. Anderson and myself were school mates at the Strathroy Collegiate Institute some twenty years ago,

and it was a great pleasure to me to be able to congratulate him upon the excellent manner in which he administers the affairs of his Lodge. He is surrounded by a very loyal set of Past Masters and officers, among whom I am sure Bro. Allen Royce, the genial Secretary, is a valued and highly esteemed member. On the 20th October, 1899, I had the pleasure of approving revised by-laws of the Lodge, and trust they may be found to be clear and explicit. The membership has increased from 132 in 1899 to 144 in 1900, there having been 13 initiations, 2 affiliations and 1 restoration, against 4 demits. The Lodge receipts have increased from \$692.92 in 1899 to \$732.75 in 1900. While the Lodge disbursements have decreased from \$858.50 in 1899 to \$692.15 in 1900. In this Lodge, however, as in many others, the balance outstanding for arrears of dues is large and increasing, having amounted in 1899 to \$146.60, and in 1900 to \$174.58. The average attendance per meeting has increased from 40 in 1899 to 41 in 1900. The Lodge premises are very prettily decorated and well insured. They are insured to the extent of \$1,000. There has been expended during the year \$25 for charity, of which \$10 was subscribed to the Sick Children's Hospital and \$7.25 to reinstate a brother in distress into his own Lodge. The general condition of Masonry in the locality is good and the prospects for the future very favorable.

Harmony Lodge, 438, Toronto: Officers for 1899—W. Bro. John C. Gardner, W. M.; W. Bro. Warring Kennedy, I. P. M.; Bro. R. J. Beeman, S. W.; Bro. W. Shaw, J. W.; Bro. Lud. K. Cameron, Chaplain; V. W. Bro. Wm. Walker, Treasurer; Bro. Thomas McQueen, Secretary; Bro. A. S. Wigmore, S. D.; Bro. J. J. Ramsay, Jr., J. D.; Bro. W. M. Davidson, I. G.; Bro. J. R. Thurston, S. S.; Bro. I. L. Anthes, J. S.; V. W. Bro. J. Y. Egan, D. of C.; Bro. R. G. Stapells, Organist; Bro. J. H. Pritchard, Tyler; Bro. T. Y. Egan, Assistant Secretary. I visited this Lodge at the meeting in January and received a loyal and fraternal welcome. A candidate was initiated by the Worshipful Master, and I had much pleasure at the conclusion of the ceremony of congratulating him highly upon his manner and his proficiency. His special officers also acquitted themselves most creditably. During the year

the membership has decreased from 129 in 1899 to 124 in 1900, there having been 10 initiations and 1 affiliation, against 2 demits and 14 suspensions for non-payment of dues. The Lodge receipts have likewise fallen from \$747.19 in 1899 to \$634.60 in 1900. The dispensations have fallen from \$7.40 in 1899 to \$6.30 in 1900. A strong effort to reduce the balance outstanding for arrears of dues appears to have been made, and consequently the arrear has been reduced from \$366.05 in 1899 to \$246.10 in 1900, although there are still 17 members twelve months in arrears. The average attendance per meeting has fallen from 39 in 1899 to 35 in 1900. The Lodge subscribed \$13.80 to the poor and \$10 to the Sick Children's Hospital. Taken all in all, I find that I am of the opinion that while the membership has somewhat decreased, yet the position of affairs in Harmony is sound at the core and requires only careful administration in order to tone it up again. For the right men are in the right places, and I have every reason to believe that my sincere friend will be able to report favorably of the brethren. Bro. MacQueen, who at the time of my visit acted as Secretary to the Lodge, has performed his work in an excellent manner.

In conclusion, let me say if the brethren of the district have received that benefit from my visits which I feel I have derived from my association with them, I am satisfied much good has been done; that the principles we ever endeavor to inculcate are better understood, and our resolutions strengthened to carry out the grand and noble teachings of the Craft.

The kindness of the brethren, universal as it has been, shall be remembered by me while life lasts, and now, as with hands joined with theirs in mutual greeting, I reciprocate friendly salutation, respect and good wishes.

WM. DAVID McPHERSON, D. D. G. M.,

Toronto West, District No. 11.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Toronto West District, No. 11, from June 94th, 1899, to June 94th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Mem-ber-ship during year.	Decrease during year.	B. A.	P. C.	M. M.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deaths.	Regular.	Emergent.	Average attendance of member.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all Arreages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. work all degrees.
23	King Sol'n.	Toronto	192	23	15	21	1	2	3	7	1	5	11	6	19	98	7	11	100	June, 1900	Fair.	Bright.	Yes
54	Vaughan	Maple	23	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Dec. 27, 1899	Fair.	Fair.	Yes
61	Rehoboth	Toronto	23	8	16	4	1	1	3	9	3	3	11	3	14	65	15	15	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
85	Wilson	Toronto	173	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
98	True Blue	Bolton	42	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
118	Union	Schomberg	21	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
156	York	Eglington	96	6	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
229	Ionie	Brampton	71	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
270	Ashlar	Toronto	166	34	9	24	7	3	7	2	2	10	11	21	45	19	19	19	100	Jan. 1, 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes
270	Patterson	Thornhill	31	6	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
292	Robtson	King	40	5	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
305	Humber	Weston	48	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
311	Blackwood	Woodbridge	34	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
326	Zetland	Toronto	292	38	16	32	6	8	6	6	6	6	10	11	58	35	35	35	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
326	Occident	Toronto	153	11	10	9	2	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
356	River Park	Streetsville	33	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
369	Mimico	Lambton	58	7	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
384	Alpha	Parkdale	100	36	15	23	10	3	10	3	3	13	8	90	47	45	45	45	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
496	Stanley	Tor. Junction	132	16	4	13	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes
498	Harmony	Toronto	128	11	16	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	Dec. 27, '99	Good.	Good.	Yes

Insurance.

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT, NO. 11A.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting for your consideration my official report on the condition of the twenty (20) Lodges, composing Toronto East District, No. 11A, for the Masonic year now closing, it is my desire to write as briefly as the extent of the information at my command will permit me.

Shortly after I was installed in office I sent copies of the following Circular to the Lodges in the District :

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, A. F. & A. M., IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
To the Worshipful Masters, Officers and Members in Toronto East District, No. 11A :

BRETHREN : 1. At the Forty-Fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the City of Ottawa, on July 20th, 1899, your Representatives and Past Masters elected me to the office of District Deputy Grand Master for Toronto East District, No. 11a. My election was confirmed by the Grand Master, and I was regularly installed and duly instructed.

I feel deeply sensible of the high honor which has been conferred upon me by my brethren. To me it is a serious responsibility to worthily represent the Grand Master, and guard, officially, the interests of our Craft in this important district, comprising twenty lodges and numbering nearly two thousand one hundred Masons.

Although conscious of imperfect qualifications for the discharge of the arduous trust committed to my care, yet it is my earnest desire to strive to perform my duties in a spirit and manner befitting this honorable position, and conducive in some measure, I hope, to the maintaining of the noble principles which are the inspiration and continuous guidance of Masonic life and conduct.

2. To assist me in the performance of my official labor, I have called to the office of District Secretary, Worshipful Brother John Watson, a Past Master of Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, and he has graciously accepted the appointment.

Communications sent to his address, No. 91 Bay street, Toronto, will be promptly acknowledged, and in due course will be accorded full and careful consideration for action thereon as my judgment may determine.

3. The Constitution also permits me to appoint a District Chap-

lain. Upon reflection, however, the thought has prevailed with me to leave this appointment in abeyance.

I do not foresee any special service to assign to the office, and I feel reluctant, therefore, to invite a reverend brother to accept a position which entails so limited responsibility. We have many eminent clergymen enrolled in our membership, and it is improbable that an occasion will arise in any locality in this district where the ministrations desired would not be obtainable.

4. It is essential for the efficient working of a lodge that a high degree of excellence should be attained in the rendition of the work.

The spirit in which our sublime ritual is exemplified by the Worshipful Master and his officers makes an impression upon the candidate, and it remains with him long after the memory of many of the words recited has grown faint. I anticipate the pleasure of affording an opportunity to three of the lodges in the district, who may be adjudged as presenting a model standard, to exemplify the several degrees in a lodge or lodges of instruction.

5. Brethren, I felt impelled to give utterance to some thoughts regarding our Craft, but I refrain. After a careful reading of the elaborate address delivered by our Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother E. T. Malone, in Ottawa, I feel impressed that it is on a higher plane than I am able to touch. The sentiments are elevating and couched in expressive language.

Very sincerely indeed do I urge you to read that address, and to read it thoughtfully. If wrought into the warp and woof of our daily life we cannot fail to rise to a higher altitude as men and Masons.

6. During my term of office I shall plan to visit every lodge in the district, on such dates as may appear expedient and convenient for the lodges and myself. I confidently rely upon the sympathy, forbearance, and fraternal consideration of my brethren.

It is usually easier to criticise than to perform, but as the Grand Master's representative, I shall endeavor to exercise my official discretion with a just appreciation of circumstances and conditions, and governed always by a conscientious observance of the line of duty.

Many bright and able Masons could take a part in making our meetings interesting, as well as instructive, and I gladly seek their co-operation and assistance. May we all work fraternally and in unison; having the same high purpose and hope—the betterment of our Craft and the happiness of our brotherhood.

7. The Worshipful Masters will greatly assist me by steadily complying with Section 160 of the Constitution.

The following list of the lodges in the district, including the names of the Worshipful Masters and Secretaries, will be found useful for reference.

I trust it may also lead to the cultivation of a more intimate association amongst the rulers of the Craft, for at present it is observable that many are personally little known to each other.

NO.	NAME.	ADDRESS.	WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SECRETARY.
16	St. Andrew's	Toronto	H. T. Smith, 78 Robert street	J. T. Slater, 2 Hogarth avenue.
23	Richmond	Richmond Hill	Ernest A. Coombs	H. A. Nicholls.
25	Ionie	Toronto	F. W. Harcourt, Freehold Building	S. T. Bastedo, Parliament Buildings.
75	St. John's	Toronto	M. Leverty, 88 Borden street	H. S. King, 95 Scott street.
87	Markham Union	Markham	J. B. Gould	R. A. Mason.
97	Sharon	Sharon	R. Breckon, Queensville	B. F. Pearson, Queensville.
99	Tuscan	Newmarket	A. Webb	T. H. Lloyd.
129	Rising Sun	Aurora	W. J. Stevenson	D. A. Radcliffe.
136	Richardson	Stouffville	D. C. Smith	S. A. Lawrence.
218	Stevenson	Toronto	E. Egan, 455 Shaw street	R. W. Higginbottom, 210 Claremont St.
220	Zeredatha	Uxbridge	J. H. O'Brien	J. G. Vicars.
269	Brougham Union	Brougham	A. E. Major, Whitevale	D. R. Beaton, Whitevale.
316	Doric	Toronto	J. E. Cook, 157 Bay street	H. E. Griffiths, 133 Lisgar street.
339	Orient	Toronto	John Jones, City Hall	D. J. Kelly, 90 Queen street east.
343	Georgina	Toronto	H. T. White, 470 Euclid avenue	W. H. Bates, 73 Borden street.
354	Brock	Cannington	A. A. MacKenzie	J. A. Kift.
367	St. George	Toronto	J. W. Hickson, 37 Yonge street	W. J. Guy, 445 Adelaide street west.
410	Zeta	Toronto	D. C. Little, 195 Close avenue	R. C. Griffith, 12 Macdonell avenue.
424	Dorio	Pickering	R. A. Bunting	Alex. Falconer.
430	Acacia	East Toronto	W. J. A. Carnahan	H. A. Giles.

Respectfully submitted,

F. G. INWOOD,
District Deputy Grand Master.

Toronto, July 31st, 1900.

Referring to the appointment of W. Bro. John Watson, I embrace this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge his continuous and self-sacrificing co-operation with me during my term of office. He has been a faithful supporter and companion in my Masonic journeying throughout the district, and particularly to the Lodges outside of Toronto. When I dwell upon the fact that his labor has not been inspired by the hope of honor or reward, I feel that he has done his part in the spirit which commands my respect and warm appreciation.

During the year I have given a number of decisions, or rulings, upon various questions submitted to me by lodges, officers and members. To a great extent these are, of course, of passing interest only. It is not probable that a record of them would serve any permanent purpose. I refrain from noting them in this report, except in one instance. Owing to the peculiar outlines of the corporate limits of Toronto, the extent of Lodge jurisdiction has at times come up for consideration, and some uncertainty has prevailed. The following, therefore, bears upon this subject and may be of some importance hereafter as a matter of reference.

Toronto, December 7th, 1899.

Re Jurisdiction of Acacia Lodge, No. 430, A. F. and A. M., G. R. C., East Toronto.

W. H. GRANT, Esq., P. M., A. F. and A. M., East Toronto:

DEAR SIR AND WOR. BRO.—Your communication of November 28, 1899, on behalf of Acacia Lodge, requests my ruling upon the following question:

"Where is the dividing line between the jurisdiction of Acacia Lodge and the Jurisdiction of the City Lodges?"

After careful consideration I submit as follows:

1. The jurisdiction of Acacia Lodge extends half way in a direct line to Orient Lodge, No. 339, corner of Queen street and Boltor avenue, Toronto, being the nearest city lodge to Acacia.
2. The line of demarcation is not affected by Toronto city limits, as lodge jurisdiction is determined irrespective of Municipal boundaries, and indeed also of Masonic Districts.
3. The said half-way divisional point of separation determines the eastern limit of the jurisdiction of the other lodges in Toronto, as they have the same jurisdiction as Orient Lodge.
4. The measurement from the residence of an applicant for membership to Acacia Lodge room decides his inclusion or exclusion as to distance in the Lodge jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

F. G. INWOOD, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto East District, No. 11 A

The commemoration of St. John's Day, 24th June,

was observed by the Craft in Toronto and vicinity by attendance at Divine Service in St. James' Cathedral, Toronto West District, No. 11, and Toronto East District, No. 11A, combined for this object.

Bro. the Rev. Professor William Clark, M.A., D.C.L., of Trinity College, delivered an eloquent and appropriate sermon. The text was from Psalm 133, 1st and 2nd verses: "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," etc. The splendid musical service was under the direction of Bro. Albert Ham, Mus. Doc., F.R.C.O. His Lordship Bishop Sweatman, Rev. Bro. G. C. Wallis and Rev. Bro. F. H. Hartley conducted the service.

Our fraternity attended in greater numbers than on any previous occasion of this character. The offertory formed a substantial evidence of sympathy for a noble institution, the Sick Children's Hospital of Toronto, which was founded largely through the munificence of a member of our Craft, M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M.

It affords me gratification to make a brief reference to the pleasing relations with adjoining districts. R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, D. D. G. M., Toronto West District, No. 11, has heartily co-operated with me in matters of joint interest to both districts. Time and experience have demonstrated that the division of the old District of Toronto has produced beneficial results. My visits to Zetland Lodge, No. 326; Harmony Lodge, No. 438; Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65; Occident Lodge, No. 346; Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, in District No. 11, gave me welcome opportunities for fraternal interchange and my reception at these gatherings was very cordial indeed.

I also enjoyed the pleasure of a visit to Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford, in Georgian Bay District, No. 9, in October last, on the occasion of the dedication of their pretty lodge room, by the Grand Master.

I desire to call attention to the practice which prevails, with the sanction of Grand Lodge, as to providing for the payment of the expenses of the D. D. G. M. In my view this should be changed. It does not appear to me to be in keeping with the importance, responsibility and the dignity of this office that the D. D. G. M., who represents the Grand Master, and thereby the Grand Lodge, should look to the Subordinate Lodges to re-

imburse him for the expenses incurred in visiting and inspecting the Lodges, and for outlay in printing, stationery and postage. So far as I have been able to learn, my predecessors have not found this system a congenial one. I submit that it is incumbent upon the Grand Lodge to directly discharge such liabilities for its representatives. Speaking approximately, \$2,000 annually would probably suffice to defray the total expenditure for the nineteen districts. My own district has been most considerate with me personally and hence I feel free to express a thought which could be worked out in the interest of the Craft and afford relief, as well as pleasure, to many concerned.

On April 25, 1900, the Masonic rooms in the Temple Building, Toronto, were dedicated to the purpose of Masonry, under the direction of the G. M., M. W. E. T. Malone, and R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, D. G. M., assisted by other Grand Lodge officers. The Lodges in 11A District occupying these rooms are: St. Andrew's, No. 16; Ionic, No. 25; St. John's, No. 75.; Stevenson, No. 218, and Doris, No. 316. There are also five lodges represented in No. 11 District. The addresses delivered on that occasion by the G. M., D. G. M., Grand Treasurer, M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, were exceedingly instructive and entertaining and in harmony with the proceedings.

During the year complete sets of By-Laws were prepared by Markham Union Lodge, No. 87; Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, and Orient Lodge, No. 339. These were sent to me for submission to the G. M., who duly confirmed the same, and I have since received printed copies of them from the various Lodges. Zeta Lodge, No. 410, also obtained approval to an amended by-law. Any dispensations which have been issued have been properly accounted for to the Grand Secretary.

At the last District Meeting held in Ottawa on July 20, 1899, a resolution was unanimously passed to present a testimonial to the retiring D. D. G. M., R. W. Bro. James Glanville, of Toronto. It was further unanimously resolved to assess the cost of said regalia equally on the membership in the district. It was thought the fairest way of raising the funds annually for such purposes. V. W. Bro. John Jones, and W. Bros.

J. D. H. Browne and Charles A. Matthews were appointed as a special committee to carry out the aforesaid resolutions. The Committee made a call of 3 cents per member on the membership in the district and collected thereby sufficient funds for the object in view.

On Dec. 5, 1899, at the regular meeting of Orient Lodge, No. 222, R. W. Bro. Glanville was presented with a handsome set of regalia, distinctive of his rank, as a token of sincere appreciation for his services to the district during his term of office as D. D. G. M.

The district has had a happy and prosperous year. It is especially gratifying to record that no disagreeable episodes have occurred to mar the good fellowship prevailing. The material prosperity is shown in an increased membership, gradual improvement in the financial standing of many of the lodges, and several lodge halls (particularly outside the city), made more attractive and comfortable by additions of new furniture and fittings, and also by painting and decorating.

While Worshipful Masters come and go each passing year, it is to my mind an unfailing source of strength that very competent brothers are retained in the Secretaryships. I cannot speak too highly of the Secretaries in No. 11A District. They are doing a great work, and we owe much to them for their part in maintaining the high grade attained by the lodges. The good work of my predecessors is bearing fruit. Our ritual is surely being more and more intelligently rendered. Some W. M.'s complain that each succeeding D.D.G.M. instructs differently in a few essential points, and this I feel assured is not wholly imaginative on their part. Speaking for myself, I have aimed to follow the special instructions which M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray was authorized to impart to the D. D. G. M.'s at the Grand Lodge. I would be glad to see uniformity in the practice of all of our work in the district, and I trust we are gradually progressing to that desirable end. It has been a revelation to me that the rural lodges compare very favorably with the City Lodges in the exemplification of our ritual, when the opportunities of the former are certainly more restricted.

Then I wish to speak appreciatively in this general reference to the generous hospitality extended by all the Lodges. It has been my good fortune not to have en-

countered a poor meeting in the course of the year. The fraternal visitors have also contributed much to these pleasurable gatherings.

The musical service is growing in favor in a number of the Lodges, and it imparts a marked degree of interest and color to the meetings. It cannot be expected that our Craft meetings will continuously retain our brothers in active connection with the Lodges, unless Masonry as a social institution is cultivated as well as its nobler aspects.

It is fitting that I should make mention here of the noble part taken by some of the Lodges in this district in the war service of the Empire in South Africa. Ionic Lodge, of Toronto, is represented there by seven of its members; St. John's Lodge, Toronto, by three of its members, and Orient Lodge, Toronto, by one of its members. For the names of these brethren and their rank in the army, reference should be made to the reports of those Lodges.

I also desire to briefly state the amounts of money disbursed in this district to various causes. The amount expended for charity during the year, so far as returned to me is \$691.50; amount subscribed for the National Patriotic Fund is \$403.47; amount subscribed for the Sick Children's Hospital is \$325.00; the amount subscribed for the Red Cross Society is \$49.47; the amount subscribed for the Ottawa and Hull fire sufferers is \$85; the amount subscribed for the Nursing At Home Mission is \$25; the amount subscribed for the Protestant Orphans' Home is \$26; making a total of \$1,604.53.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto: The Senior Lodge in this district continues in the front rank in general excellence. On October 10, 1899, there was held a Reunion of the Old Members of the Lodge. It was the 77th Anniversary of the institution of the Lodge. The meeting enjoyed all the elements of unusual interest. The Past Masters made a special night of it. Several of them had passed the half-century line in Masonry, and they were deeply touched at the reception accorded them by their brethren, and for the graceful expression of welcome extended to them by that zealous and capable W. M., W. Bro. Henry T. Smith. The Past Masters had not forgotten their early training, and under the direction of W. Bro. James L. Hughes as a guiding

spirit the initiation of a candidate passed off successfully. The banquet which followed was unique in its character, and I felt it an honor to be present to assist in paying a tribute of respect and affection to our veteran members.

On January 30, 1900, a Musical and Literary At-Home was given by the Lodge. It was a pleasant opportunity for members of the Craft to extend Masonic courtesies to their ladies and friends.

My official inspection was made on May 8th, 1900. Amongst the visitors was W. Bro. A. J. Anderson, W. M. of Stanley Lodge, of Toronto Junction. St. Andrew's Lodge at this meeting conferred the second degree upon a candidate. The exemplification of the ritual very favorably impressed me. The spirit in which the work was performed could not fail to be impressive. A cultivated and refined W. M. is W. Bro. Professor A. H. Reynar. His rendition of the ritual was characterized by a grace and breadth of tone that left its impress upon the mind of the candidate. To say that the books and records are well kept by W. Bro. J. T. Slater, Secretary, and R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson, Treasurer, is to repeat only what has been frequently declared. With a membership of 232, easy financially and officers steadfast and true, this lodge will continue doing noble work. The charitable disposition of the Lodge is worthy of a special reference. Such acts are highly to be commended. It is one reply to the strictures passed upon Masonry by some parties who profess to see in our noble Craft a menace to the work of the Christian Church. During the year the lodge paid in charity or relief \$112; subscribed to the National Patriotic Fund, \$100; for the Sick Children's Hospital of Toronto, \$50; for the Nursing at Home Mission, \$25, and \$25 for the Protestant Orphans' Home, making a total of \$312. The Lodge is in good financial standing, and the prospects for steady prosperity appear to be favorable.

Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Richmond Hill: I officially inspected this Lodge at an emergent meeting held on April 16, 1900. The attendance of members, including visitors, was numerous. The meeting throughout was most enjoyable. The first degree was exemplified in creditable style by the W. M. and officers. The Junior Warden, although young in years, was par worthy of honorable mention as to the delivery of his

work. The visitors were also favorably impressed, and these included Worshipful Masters W. Bro. John Drew, of St. George Lodge, and W. Bro. W. J. Wilson, of Stevenson Lodge, Toronto. The removal of the W. M., W. Bro. Ernest Coombs, from the High School, Richmond Hill, to Newmarket High School, has latterly made it very inconvenient for him to give personal attention to the affairs of the Lodge. He has shown himself, however, a very capable Master and is quite thorough in rendering the ritual. During this year this spacious Lodge room has been decorated and likewise the ante-rooms. The lodge quarters are now very attractive and comfortable. The Lodge owns this fine property and has no debts except the mortgage encumbrance of \$500. I felt it an honor to be introduced to the Lodge by one of the Past Masters, who is an octogenarian, W. Bro. A. L. Skeele, and he is still so enthusiastic in his devotion to the Craft that he remained to the last stage of the evening's proceedings. I examined the books of the Lodge as kept by the Secretary. Wor. Bro. H. A. Nicholls, and found them in excellent order. The Lodge has a membership of 32 and the papers appear fairly favorable. Since last report the lodge has expended in charity \$12 and has subscribed \$4 to the National Patriotic Fund, and \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital of Toronto, making a total of \$21.

Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto: I was present at this Lodge on September 20, 1899, when an emergent meeting was held. That occasion was made memorable by a reception extended to a visitor W. Bro. Lord Justice Gerald Fitzgibbon, of Trinity College Lodge, No. 357, Dublin Ireland. It is not probable that a more notable gathering of Craftsmen will often assemble in any lodge. This Masonic function was carried through under the direction of the W. M., W. Bro. F. H. Harcourt, with a genial grace of manner in perfect harmony with the spirit of the occasion. The distinguished visitor expressed his delight and, indeed, astonishment at the progress and standing of Masonry in Canada. In choice language he expressed his unbounded pleasure in meeting brethren so far away from his own land.

On April 3, 1900, the regular meeting of the Lodge was taken in charge by the Past Masters. The veterans of the Craft worked the first degree and it was well

and truly done. I visited officially on May 1, 1900. The third degree was conferred upon a candidate, and this work was submitted for my inspection. Worshipful Masters W. Bro. John Drew, of St. George Lodge, and W. Bro. H. H. Ball, of York Lodge, also witnessed the ceremony. There was a strength of excellence throughout the exemplification of the ritual that made the performance a very high standard. It is only the simple truth to state here that it has not been surpassed in any Lodge in the district during the year. The W. M., W. Bro. Sydney B. Sykes, is a fitting successor to many distinguished Craftsmen who have filled the chair of Ionic. The Lodge still retains a light lead in membership in this district, being now 235. The financial standing is considered quite good. The books and records are in the careful and capable hands of Bro. C. R. W. Postlethwaite as Secretary, and R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaits as Treasurer. The benevolent disposition of this Lodge deserves honorable mention. The dues of the brethren on war service in South Africa are remitted for 1900. The Lodge has also disbursed in relief \$26.64; subscribed for the Sick Children's Hospital \$40; Red Cross Society, \$24.47; Bro. A. J. Boyd (on war service) \$24.47, and Ottawa and Hull fire sufferers, \$25. Total, \$140.58. The outlook for the Lodge presents no view of any disturbing factor and I look for success in unabated measure. The military character of the Lodge is best shown by the following list of members in the service of Queen and Empire in South Africa: William Dillon Otter, Lieutenant-Colonel Canadian Staff, A. D. C., commanding Second (Special Service) Battalion, R. C. R. I.; Charles James MacDougall, Major R. C. R. I., Second Battalion; Rykert Kent Barker, Captain "C" Co., Second Battalion, R. C. R. I.; George Sterling Ryerson, Lieut.-Col. Army Medical Service, Deputy Surgeon-General; Lewis Erskine Wentworth Irving, Lieutenant Royal Canadian Artillery (Captain Reserve Officers); Alexander J. Boyd, Capt. R. C. R. I. (Captain Royal Grenadiers); Christopher Harleston Irving, Gunner Royal Canadian Artillery.

St. John's Lodge, No. 75, Toronto: This is a strong Lodge financially, as well as in other respects. Several thousands of dollars of invested funds and careful ad-

ministration contribute greatly to steady prosperity. It was not a difficult task to perform my official inspection on February 5, 1900. W. Bro. Martin Levery, W.M., and officers initiated a candidate in a manner which commanded my approval. I examined the books of the Treasurer, Bro. W. N. Eastwood, and of the Secretary, Bro. H. S. King, and commended these officers. The Choir Service is worthy of special commendation and it greatly adds to the charm of our ritual. During the year death has removed W. Bro. Thomas Hills, Bro. John Alderdice and Bro. T. A. Heintzman, and they were interred with Masonic honors. My predecessor, R. W. Bro. James Glanville, installed the W. M., Wor. Bro. E. J. Cashmore, and a capable staff of officers on June 25, 1900. I look for continued success for this Lodge. With a membership of 233, it is in a position to do good work for Masonry. During the year the Lodge has subscribed as follows: Sick Children's Hospital, \$25; Lakeside Home, \$25; Patriotic Fund, \$200; Masonic Board of Relief, \$27.24; family of the late Bro. McArthur, \$10; charity to widow, etc., \$95. Total, \$382.24. This Lodge is represented in the war service in South Africa by the following brethren: David Borland, Sergeant Major, First Royal Canadian Regiment; John Frederick Ramsay, Sergeant in First Royal Canadian Regiment, now First Lieutenant in First Brabant's first degree was exemplified satisfactorily. W. Bro. R. A. Mason is a careful Secretary, and the Treasurer, R. Horse; George Robert Sweeny. Private Canadian Mounted Infantry.

Markham Union Lodge, No. 87, Markham: My official visit was made on Good Friday, April 13, 1900. There was a good attendance. The visitors included W. M.'s Wor. Bro. R. Hollinger, of Zeredatha Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Dr. D. C. Smith, of Richardson Lodge; V. W. Bro. John Jones, of Orient Lodge; Wor. Bro. John Watson, of Stevenson Lodge; Wor. Bro. Harvey J. Gould, of Zeredatha Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Cherry, of Patterson Lodge. The meeting was rendered particularly pleasant by a generous act on the part of the Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. J. B. Gould, the S. W., Bro. Frank A. Reesor and the J. W., Bro. Albert C. Reesor. On their behalf I made a presentation to the

Lodge of handsome chairs for East, West and South, given respectively by the W. M., S. W., and J. W. Not only has the Lodge room been improved lately, but new furniture has been added and with very pleasing results. The only liability against the Lodge is a special loan of \$150, and ere long this will probably disappear. The first degree was exemplified satisfactorily. W. Bro. R. A. Mason is a careful Secretary, and the Treasurer, R. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant continues to be a faithful as well as an efficient officer. On the 25th of June, 1900, a new staff of officers was installed by W. Bro. Harvey J. Gould, of Unbridge. The present W. M. is W. Bro. Frank A. Reesor, and I have no doubt he will continue the good work of his predecessor, W. Bro. J. B. Gould. The outlook for the Lodge is encouraging and it is not probable that the present membership will remain stationary. This Lodge prepared a new set of By-laws, which I submitted to the Grand Master, and he duly approved of the same on January 30, 1900.

Sharon Lodge, No. 97, Sharon: My official visit occurred on June 12, 1900. The excellent attendance was enlivened by a visit from the W. M., Wor. Bro. Orton, officers and members of Simcoe Lodge, of Bradford. The officers of Sharon Lodge are capable, but I regret to note that a few of them have missed more meetings than they have attended in the last six months. My strictures upon this feature were taken in good part, and I hope for a desirable improvement in this respect. The second degree was exemplified, and the opening and closing in the several degrees appeared to me fairly well done. The S. W., Bro. T. W. Wallis, was in good form in reciting his lecture. The W. M., W. Bro. Albert Traviss, is attentive to the duties of his office and discharged them in a satisfactory manner. The Secretary, W. Bro. Dr. B. F. Pearson, is a valued officer and calls for commendation upon the faithful performance of his task. The Lodge showed high appreciation for him on this occasion by conferring Honorary Membership as a tangible recognition for years of self-sacrificing service. On June 15, 1900, the Lodge gave a concert in the Temple Building in Sharon, and the net proceeds amounted to \$70. This sum has strengthened the Lodge financially. For a small community Sharon Lodge has a good membership, being 49, and the finan-

cial standing of the Lodge is improving. The officers feel greatly encouraged and look for a progressive future. The Lodge has expended \$25 in benevolence, of which \$20 was in charity and \$5 subscribed to the Sick Children's Hospital.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket: My official visit to this Lodge was made on April 11, 1900. It afforded me a great deal of pleasure to meet veterans like R. W. Bro. Col. James Wayling, and R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M.'s. The surrounding Lodges were well represented by W. Bro. Dr. W. J. Stevenson, W. M. of Rising Sun; W. Bro. Albert Traviss, W. M. of Sharon; W. Bro. Ernest Coombs, W. M. of Richmond; W. Bro. J. W. Hickson, P. M., St. George, and other Past Masters. The Lodge room had recently been decorated and presented a very cheerful and pleasant aspect. A candidate was initiated in an acceptable manner by the W. M., W. Bro. C. H. Lloyd, who is probably the youngest W. M. in the district. The J. W., Bro. A. S. Williams, was particularly bright in the delivery of his lecture, and his performance has not been excelled in my term. The finances are well handled by R. W. Bro. Brunton, the Treasurer, and the Secretary, W. Bro. T. H. Lloyd, is keeping the books and records in a methodical and careful way. It is pleasing to note that the Lodge has funds of \$150 and no debts. The disbursement for charity during the year is \$5. With a membership of 46 and easy financially, this Lodge should continue to do well.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora: When visiting this Lodge officially, May 11, 1900, I was fortunate in being accompanied by R. W. Bro. Ben Allen, of Ashlar Lodge, Toronto, and W. Bro. H. T. Power, of Sharon Lodge. The election of officers was held at this meeting. A candidate was initiated and I considered the exemplification by the W. M., W. Bro. Dr. W. J. Stevenson, and his officers as quite satisfactory to me officially. The J. W.'s lecture by W. Bro. J. W. Crossley was admirably recited. The Secretary, W. Bro. D. A. Radcliffe, is competent for his position and his books and records bear evidence of it. The Lodge room (formerly a church property) is spacious and comfortably fitted up for Masonic purposes. The Lodge owns this property and the brethren are making a special effort, which is

being attended with success, to pay the mortgage encumbrance by means of stock subscriptions. The brethren on this occasion regretfully parted with R. W. Rev. E. H. Mussen, P. G. C., who was removing from Aurora to Collingwood. The present W. M., W. Bro. Dr. R. M. Hilary, was installed in June, 1900, and is well supported by the subordinate officers. I trust ere long the financial standing of the Lodge will be materially strengthened. The membership is 62 and the prospects appear favorable. The Lodge expended in charity \$6.55 and subscribed \$15 to the Sick Children's Hospital. The Lodge is now working under a new set of By-laws which I submitted to the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, and obtained his confirmation on Dec. 18, 1899.

Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville: During the last few years this Lodge has made steady progress and very materially improved its organization. The At Home on January 30, 1900, afforded an excellent opportunity to cultivate fraternal and social relations. On March 15, 1900, I made an official visit. A candidate was initiated and I was satisfied with the exemplification of the ritual. Some of the pleasure of this meeting was attributable to the presence of V. W. Bro. James MacFarlane, Grand Steward; W. Bro. Jonathan B. Gould, W. M. of Markham Union Lodge; P. M., W. Bro. Cherry, of Patterson Lodge, and P. M.'s W. Bros. H. J. Gould and G. Thompson, from Zeredatha Lodge. The Lodge is clear of debt and has \$150 to \$200 of funds in hand. The membership is now increased to 41, and the Lodge reports excellent prospects. W. Bro. D. C. Smith proved a very acceptable Worshipful Master. His successor, W. Bro. J. W. Shankel, is now directing affairs and will prove prudent and tactful. The installation of officers was performed on June 25, 1900, by Wor. Bro. John Watson, P. M. of Stevenson Lodge, Toronto. The Lodge has expended in charity as follows: \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital; \$5 in answer to an appeal from Beaverton Lodge for a widow and family; Bro. Bowman, of Richardson Lodge, \$25, and this was supplemented by subscriptions by the brethren another \$25. Total amount, \$60. The general condition of Richardson Lodge is satisfactory, and I feel assured that if the care shown the last few years is continued, prosperity will inevitably follow.

Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto: I availed myself of an opportunity to officially visit this Lodge on February 12, 1900. I witnessed the initiation of a candidate. At that date the W. M., W. Bro. William J. Wilson, had not the advantage of a great deal of practice, and I therefore felt pleased that his performance was so highly satisfactory. He is a genial presiding officer and he has an efficient staff of subordinate officers. The membership of the Lodge is reported to me as 185, therefore I am not able to note progress. This is owing partly to some suspensions for non-payment of dues and the removal by death of Bros. Charles H. Waterman and John A. McDonald. The financial condition of the Lodge, however, continues healthy, there being a substantial amount of invested funds. On his recent removal to Hamilton, R.W. Bro. R. W. Higginbottom resigned the Secretaryship, and Bro. W. H. S. McCallum has been elected in his stead. The efficiency of the office is maintained and the books and records are in satisfactory order. Amongst the visitors on the occasion of my official visit were Worshipful Masters W. Bro. J. Muir, of Occident Lodge, and W. Bro. E. J. Walsh, of Brougham Union Lodge. While I am writing this report some division of opinion is observable in the Lodge as to the desirability of the Lodge becoming affiliated with the Masonic Benevolent Board of Toronto. As this is a minor matter, however, I presume it will soon adjust itself. In charity the Lodge expended \$69.60 and has subscribed \$20 to the Patriotic Fund, and \$50 to the Sick Children's Hospital.

Zeredatha Lodge, No. 220, Uxbridge: This Lodge claims, with pardonable pride, to have a lodge room unsurpassed in the district outside of Toronto. Certainly its appointments, fittings and paintings are in excellent taste. When visiting officially on May 14, 1900, I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. B. Allen, V. W. Bro. James Macfarlane, Grand Steward, and W. Bro. John Watson, all of Toronto. In such elegant quarters and with a debt of only \$75, the membership of 70 should be happy. On this occasion the W. M. of Markham Union, W. Bro. J. B. Gould, and some brethren from Sharon Lodge were present as visitors. The Lodge conferred the sublime degree of a Master Mason upon a candidate, and on this work I passed judgment. I

considered the ritual very fairly exemplified and it spoke well for the Lodge to submit this degree as a test of their qualifications and training. The W. M., W. Bro. R. Hollinger, is a painstaking ruler and is well supported by the Wardens, Bros. J. A. Purdy and S. S. Sharpe. The books and records of the Secretary, Bro. John G. Vicars, and the Treasurer, Bro. T. Boyd, showed carefulness and attention. The Lodge held their Annual At Home on December 27, 1899, and enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant time. It is pleasing to note that the Past Masters take an active interest in the Lodge, and that W. Bro. H. J. Gould takes part in reciting the ritual. The Lodge has subscribed \$10 to the Sick Children's Hospital. At the present time the prospects of this Lodge appear favorable, and it may be described as well established.

Brougham Union Lodge, No. 269, Claremont: As my predecessor pointed out, this Lodge has been languishing for a number of years. Recently a change of location was decided upon and the Lodge has been removed from Brougham to the village of Claremont, on the C. P. R., in a prosperous district. My official consent was obtained for this change, as I felt that a movement was imperatively demanded in the interests of the Lodge and of the Craft. Already beneficial results are apparent. For the first time in three and a half years a candidate was initiated on June 13, 1900, which was the date of my official visit. Unfortunately a sudden attack of illness rendered me unable to perform any efficient service on this occasion. Happily my temporary inability was made up for the Lodge by the presence of W. M., Wor. Bro. Dr. D. C. Smith, of Richardson Lodge, of Stouffville, and W. M., W. Bro. R. A. Bunting, of Doric Lodge, of Pickering. These Worshipful Masters were accompanied by some of their officers and members, and they gave a great deal of encouragement to Brougham Lodge. The Lodge now has a favorable prospect of growth. The present membership is 33. The Lodge is in very fair financial standing. The very efficient Secretary, Bro. D. R. Beaton, who is Clerk of Pickering Township, reports to me an improved condition in the Lodge, and that the outlook is brightening. The W. M., M. Bro. E. J. Walsh, is doing his utmost to promote the interests of the Lodge. It is not too

much to say that Bro. D. R. Beaton, the Secretary, has been a potent factor in keeping this Lodge together through a long period of depression and discouragement.

Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto: This Lodge has been advancing latterly and shows an improvement numerically, financially and fraternally. The membership for June, 1900, is stated at 143. The meeting on November 16th, 1899, was given up to the Past District Deputy Grand Masters of the Toronto District. Under the genial direction of R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, acting as W. M., the night's proceedings were enacted with great spirit. The P. D. D. G. M.'s afforded conclusive evidence of their ability to initiate a candidate in a manner worthy of their eminent rank. Few of the brethren present will forget that memorable gathering. My visit of inspection was made on April 19, 1900. The Lodge also entertained Worshipful Masters Wor. Bro. Raymond Walker, of King Solomon's Lodge, and W. Bro. W. H. Shaw, of Harmony Lodge. I witnessed the exemplification of an initiation, and on the whole it was fairly well done, and some of it was excellent. The Junior Deacon, Bro. A. E. Burgess, deserves honorable mention, as I feel his performance in that office quite equalled any I have seen for some time. The W. Bro. B. N. Davis, discharged his duties as Chaplain in a devout and graceful manner. It is only justice to say of W. Bro. J. E. Cook, the Worshipful Master for 1899, to note here that he was unfailing in the conscientious discharge of his duty, and he rendered invaluable service to Doric Lodge during his term. The W. M. for 1900, W. Bro. Alexander Anderson, is entitled to much credit for his untiring efforts to promote peace and harmony. It is the expressed feeling of his officers and members, and it is gratifying to record that a large measure of success is the outcome of his labors. I need scarcely say that in Bro. H. E. Griffiths as Secretary, and R. W. Bro. A. R. S. Ardagh as Treasurer, the Lodge has officers in those important posts who continue to demonstrate marked fitness for the duties assigned them.

Orient Lodge, No. 330, Toronto: The reception extended to me by Orient Lodge on August 1, 1899, will remain a red-letter event in my life. My Mother Lodge,

and of which I am a life member, has fully appreciated the honor, equally with myself, of the District Deputy Grand Mastership coming to the lodge for the first time in its history of nearly a quarter of a century. My chivalrous opponent at Ottawa, W. Bro. E. B. Brown, of Ionic, was present on this occasion and touched the hearts of all by the singularly graceful part which he took in the proceedings. The Lodge held an At-Home on November 29, 1899, which exercised a beneficial influence in promoting social relations. On December 5, 1899, I performed the ceremony of installing the officers. This marked the retirement from the chair of V. Wor. Bro. John Jones, Street Commissioner, for the fourth time. His unselfish devotion to the welfare of the Lodge has long been recognized and the presentation at this meeting of a handsome silver server was a sincere token of esteem on behalf of the Lodge. The W. M. of Orient Lodge for 1900, Wor. Bro. C. A. J. Farquhar, is sparing no time nor labor to promote the welfare of the Lodge, and I am glad to be able to testify that he is succeeding. The Secretaryship for 1899 was well attended by Bro. D. J. Kelly. This year Wor. Bro. F. H. Anderson is filling the office, for which he is peculiarly adapted, and it is only to record the generally expressed opinion to say that it would be difficult to find a Secretary more efficient and methodical. At the October, 1899, regular meeting of the Lodge V. W. Bro. James Macfarlane, Treasurer of Orient Lodge, was heartily congratulated upon his appointment to the office of Grand Steward in the Grand Lodge. It was felt that M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Q. C., Grand Master, honored a very deserving brother. V. W. Bro. Macfarlane during a long period has been a faithful and steadfast Mason and has never grown weary in well-doing for Orient Lodge and for the Craft. This Lodge now enjoys the services of a choir under the direction of a salaried organist and instructor. New furniture has been added. The canopy over the Master's chair being a special attraction. It was removed from the old City Hall in 1899. It was associated with the Mayor's chair for many years. On October 12, 1899, the Grand Master duly approved of a revised and complete set of By-laws for Orient Lodge. During 1900 the Lodge has lost by death a Past Master, Wor. Bro.

R. E. Bailey, and a member, Bro. Jos. Stinson. The membership of the Lodge in June, 1900, was 177, a gratifying increase. The financial condition of the lodge is also improving and the prospects are favorable. During the year the Lodge has expended in charity \$145; subscribed for the Sick Children's Hospital, \$10, and presented \$25 in gold to W. Bro. Alex. Gillies, a Past Master of Orient Lodge, who is now serving in the war in South Africa as a Serg. Vet. in connection with Strathcona's Horse.

Georgina Lodge, No. 343, Toronto: This Lodge meets Saturday evening to enable the traveling brethren to enjoy the comforts and pleasures of their Masonic Home. The growth of the Lodge has been phenomenal during the last few years, and the membership is now 210. The Lodge room is well appointed, and the officers and members are enthusiastic in their devotion to the Lodge, of which they are proud. On the occasion of my official visit, April 7, 1900, a candidate was initiated. W. M., W. Bro. Henry T. White and his officers exemplified the ritual in a creditable manner. The Secretary, Bro. W. Henry Bates, presented books and records kept in admirable order. The Lodge is strong in debating talent, and business proceedings undergo exhaustive treatment. The pleasure of my visit was enhanced by the presence of R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, D. D. G. M. of No. 11 District; R. W. Bro. Ben Allen, and the Worshipful Masters, W. Bro. Martin Levery, of St. John's Lodge, and W. Bro. T. G. Balcolm, of Zeta Lodge. The Lodge gave a musical At-Home, February 16, 1900, which was a successful and pleasant affair. On June 23, 1900, R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins installed a new staff of officers. The new W. M., Wor. Bro. W. M. Grant, will continue a good work in this Lodge, and he has well-trained officers under his direction. For benevolent purposes the Lodge has paid to the Masonic Board of Relief \$22.56; subscribed \$50 to the Sick Children's Hospital, \$25 to the Insurance Fund of "C" Co., and \$25 to the Ottawa and Hull fire sufferers, making a total of \$122.56.

Brock Lodge, No. 354, Cannington: I made an official visit to this Lodge on November 15th, 1899. The third degree was conferred upon a candidate and this work was presented for my inspection. I considered it

fairly well done. Any imperfections observable arose from lack of practice, which is necessarily limited here to few opportunities. The W. M., Wor. Bro. A. A. Mackenzie, continued attentive to the duties of his office, although subject to considerable inconvenience, by his removal from Cannington to reside in Markham village. On the occasion of my official visit V. W. Bro. James Macfarlane, Grand Steward, took an active part in the proceedings and very appropriately remarked upon the admirable suite of rooms occupied by Brock Lodge. With a membership numbering 53, and the Lodge free of debt, I think ample evidence of Masonic interest is shown in this small community. It is true the members are enthusiastic and that the officers are more than usually well supported. W. Bro. J. A. Kift is a very careful and painstaking Secretary. The Lodge has subscribed \$5 to the Patriotic Fund, \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital, and expended \$5 in charity during the year.

St. George Lodge, No. 367, Toronto: This Lodge is having a prosperous year and substantial progress is noted; a membership increased to 152 and an improvement in finances. I was present at the election of officers November 3, 1899, which changed an efficient W. M. in the person of Wor. Bro. J. W. Hickson for another zealous and untiring worker in the person of Wor. Bro. John Drew. At the successful At-Home of the Lodge, held November 24, 1899, I observed that a transformation had taken place in the decoration of the Lodge room and furnishings. On that occasion M.W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Grand Master, and the D. D. G. M. from No. 11 District, took part in the pleasure of the social gathering. I reserved my official inspection for the regular meeting on February 2, 1900. On this occasion the Lodge was favored with the presence of Wor. Masters Wor. Bro. C. A. J. Farquhar, Wor. Bro. Alexander Anderson, Wor. Bro. W. J. Wilson and Wor. Bro. M. Leverty, of City Lodges, and P. M. W. Bro. H. J. Gould, of Zeredatha Lodge, Uxbridge. The W. M. of St. George Lodge, Wor. Bro. John Drew, and his officers initiated a candidate in a manner which enabled me to commend the exemplification of the ritual. Bro. R. C. Gallagher is proving a worthy successor to W. Bro. W. J. Guy in the Secretaryship. The Lodge

is in good spirits and the musical service is imparting additional interest to the ceremonies. I note that the Lodge has expended \$10 in relief, subscribed \$25 to the Red Cross Society, and \$10 to the Sick Children's Hospital.

Zeta Lodge, No. 410, Toronto: My first visit to this Lodge occurred December 22, 1899. The I. P. M., Wor. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, installed the officers, and he performed the duty for the first time with singular ability. It is also due to him to mention that he was practically the acting Worshipful Master for two years. The W. M. for 1899, Bro. D. C. Little, removed early in the year to Honolulu, and therefore was not able to attend personally to the office. This meeting also commenced the joint occupancy with Alpha Lodge of the Masonic Temple, corner of Dowling Avenue and Queen Street West. This has proven a desirable and happy arrangement and of very material advantage to both Lodges. The Lodge and ante-rooms are comfortably and, indeed, elegantly furnished. My official inspection was made on May 25, 1900. A large attendance witnessed the initiation of two candidates. The W.M., W. Bro. T. G. Malcolm, and his officers exemplified the work to my satisfaction. I noticed that the books and records of the Secretary, Bro. E. A. Macdonald, Mayor of Toronto, are in satisfactory order. The Secretary, however, is fortunate in having a faithful and efficient assistant in Bro. E. A. Faulds. The books of the Treasurer, R. W. Bro. G. G. Rowe, appear in good order. With a membership of 114, \$600 cash in hand and no debts, it is stating a substantial fact that this Lodge is enjoying prosperity and the future appears bright with hope. On the occasion of my official visit the Grand Junior Warden, R. W. Bro. Russell Stuart; Wor. Bro. Robert Ross, W. M. of Alpha Lodge; W. Bro. J. W. St. John; W. Bro. Henry T. White, W.M. of Georgina Lodge, and a brother from New Zealand assisted in making the meeting long to be remembered as exceedingly enjoyable. This Lodge has subscribed \$15 to the Sick Children's Hospital, and \$25 to the Ottawa and Hull fire sufferers.

Doric Lodge, No. 424, Pickering: By request of this Lodge, I paid an official visit on December 14th, 1899, and installed the officers, with the assistance of

District Secretary, W. Bro. John Watson. The third degree was conferred upon a candidate. The ritual was well and truly rendered by the W. M., W. Bro. R. A. Bunting, and was well supported by his officers. W. Bro. Bunting is enjoying a second term in the chair. I am entirely satisfied that he is unselfishly discharging his duty to the Lodge. The growth is necessarily slow, but it does grow a little. The membership is now 36, and the financial condition is healthy, there being \$200 of funds and no liabilities. I shall remember this Lodge. It is the only one in which I narrowly escaped a Board of Trial. Fortunately a brother was able to vouch for me, or I suppose the D. D. G. M. would have been compelled to undergo an examination to permit his admission to the Lodge room. Although I exhibited the official document issued by the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, which should be conclusive credentials, I am afraid it did not carry that conviction to the minds of the brethren in Pickering Lodge. This Lodge is talking of making some change at an opportune time as to Lodge quarters. The Secretary, B. M. Stewart, is a young brother, and is performing his duties in a capable manner.

Acacia Lodge, No. 430, East Toronto: This Lodge is located near the Eastern corporation limits of the City of Toronto. I visited officially on December 18, 1899, when I installed the officers. On that occasion, on behalf of the Lodge, I presented the retiring W. M., W. Bro. W. J. A. Carnahan, with a Past Master's Jewel. The present W. M. is W. Bro. William Edward Fitzpatrick. He is a faithful officer, and is giving careful attention to the affairs of the Lodge. Very fair progress is being made and the membership is now 75. The Secretary, Bro. H. A. Giles, keeps his books and records in excellent order. The Lodge has expended \$5 in charity and subscribed \$5 to the Sick Children's Hospital. The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, honored this Lodge, and V. W. Bro. John Parsell, by appointing the latter to the office of Grand Standard-Bearer. This Lodge applied to me for a ruling defining its jurisdiction, and especially relating to the Lodges in the City of Toronto. The ruling is recited in another paragraph in my report. Acacia Lodge some months ago submitted to me a complaint against Rehoboam

Lodge, No. 65, Toronto, in District No. 11. A conflict of opinion has arisen between Acacia and Rehoboam as to the correct interpretation of clause 215 of the Constitution. A resident of East Toronto was initiated in Rehoboam. He has an office in Toronto, where he earns a portion of his income. I expressed the view that the jurisdiction of Acacia had been invaded in this instance, and that it did not appear to me that a reasonable and impartial reading of the Constitution would sustain the action of Rehoboam. I understand that Acacia is pressing the case for a decision and that in due course it will come under the consideration of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals at Grand Lodge.

A year ago I gladly assumed the cares of the office of D. D. G. M. With quite as much pleasure I now see the mantle fall on other shoulders. This feeling will be understood fully by those who have passed through this experience. It was my ambition to achieve this high honor in the Craft I love so well.

While conscious of my shortcomings in filling this position, I feel thankful that I have not failed in making an earnest effort to discharge the many duties. Pleasant memories only will remain with me. I have enlarged my circle of friends. I gratefully acknowledge lasting obligations to staunch comrades, who have sustained me by counsel, sympathy and assistance. For these, in coming years, I shall look for opportunities to return in some measure their highly prized consideration and heartfelt regard for me.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

F. G. INWOOD, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto East District, No. 11A.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto East District, No 11a, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship.			Degree's conf'd			Suspend-ions, N. P. D.			Average attendance of members.			Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
		Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Res-torations.	Res-ignations.	Suspend-ions, other causes.	Deceased.	Regular.	Emer-gent.	Total.							
16 St. Andrew's	Toronto	329	7	11	15	14	1	4	1	1	1	11	6	17	45	\$ 105 45	Jun 24, 1900	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
23 Richmond	Richmond Hill	32	9	9	9	9	1	1	1	1	1	10	13	13	13	225 50	Jun 24, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
25 Leila	Toronto	235	23	10	15	13	6	3	2	2	2	9	10	46	13	86 00	Dec 24, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
70 St. John's	Toronto	223	6	11	15	13	6	3	2	2	2	7	11	46	13	86 00	Dec 27, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
87 Mark's U.	Markham	37	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	17	8 00	.....	Jun 24, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
97 Sharon	Sharon	49	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	11	5 00	24 88	Dec 27, 1899	Improv'g	Improv'g	Yes	900
98 Tuscon	Newton	46	9	9	9	9	3	2	1	1	1	13	13	11	5 00	183 95	Dec 27, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	900
136 Rising Sun	Newton	62	9	6	6	6	3	2	1	1	1	19	19	15	6 55	183 95	Jun 24, 1899	Improv'g	Fairly	Yes	1,500
138 Richardson	Stouffville	155	8	4	6	5	3	2	1	1	1	19	19	15	6 00	474 50	Dec 27, 1899	Good	Excellent	Yes	1,500
218 Zeredatha	Uxbridge	170	5	4	10	8	4	2	1	1	1	13	13	43	62 80	5 95	Dec 27, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	Hill Tot
226 Brown U.	Claremont	33	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	10	10 00	5 95	Dec 27, 1899	Fair	Improv'g	Yes	400
316 Doris	Toronto	143	8	13	13	13	6	2	1	1	1	13	13	15	90 00	486 00	Jun 27, 1899	Improv'g	Good	Yes	Hill Tot
339 Orient	Toronto	177	23	19	19	9	5	2	1	1	1	6	14	11	15	178 00	Jun 27, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	1,000
343 Georgina	Toronto	210	30	7	19	19	9	2	1	1	1	11	11	23	145 00	499 30	Jun 24, 1900	Good	Fairly	Yes	1,300
354 Brock	Cannington	9	9	1	9	9	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	19	5 00	35 00	Dec 3, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	300
367 St. George	Toronto	152	16	16	16	16	7	2	1	1	1	18	18	45	311 45	311 45	Jun 24, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	300
410 Zeta	Pickering	114	13	13	13	13	8	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	50 00	38 21	Dec 27, 1899	Good	Fairly	Yes	1,500
424 Doric	East Toronto	75	1	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	12	12	11	40 00	185 00	Jan 1, 1900	Good	Fairly	Yes	300
430 Accia	East Toronto	75	1	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	13	13	20	5 00	185 00	Jan 24, 1900	Good	Fairly	Yes	300

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and
Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario :*

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I take great pleasure in presenting this report of the work in Ontario District during my tenure of the office of D. D.G. M. However, I must first thank the representatives who kindly conferred the great honor on me of electing me to this responsible office at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, in the City of Ottawa.

I have discharged the duties of the office to the best of my ability, and wherein I have failed to do my part I assure you that it was not due to indifference on my part, but rather to the pressing calls of my profession.

I sincerely regret that so many of the W. M.'s are inclined to give the work in too liberal a manner, and this especially applies to those who are ranked as public speakers, who depend largely on a ready tongue to carry them through. Much more attention should be given with the object of having the work uniform. However the general character of the work is above the average, and a few Lodges give it in the most perfect manner possible.

My first act as D. D. G. M. was to issue the following circular, and I am very sorry that so many of the Secretaries are so slow with their returns and notices of meetings. I have had to notify some more than once before I heard from them at all.

THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
A. F. AND A. M.

Ontario District, No. 12.

KEENE, ONT., July 28, 5899.

DEAR SIR AND WOR. BROTHER :

I have pleasure in notifying you that I have been elected to the honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master for Ontario District No. 12.

Please do me the favor to instruct the Secretary of your lodge to forward to me, here, copies of all summonses issued.

May I direct your attention to the expressed wish of the Grand Lodge, that an earnest effort be made to bring into communication with the Craft, all brethren now non-affiliated. I would urge, very strongly indeed, that you give personal attention to this matter and I trust that your efforts will have very favorable results.

It is my purpose to officially visit all Lodges in this District during the year, and it will be a pleasure and gratifying as well, to meet as large a number of the brethren as possible.

Wishing yourself and your lodge continued success.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN M. SHAW,
D. D. G. M.

I have granted dispensations to the following Lodges to attend Divine Service in regalia on St. John's Day, viz.: Faithful Brethren, 77, Lindsay; Hope, 114, Port Hope; Peterboro, 155, Peterboro; Arcadia, 440, Minden, and Havelock, 435, Havelock, for July 1st.

I have had the pleasure of installing the officers of the following Lodges: Jan. 9, Norwood, 223; Jan. 11, Keene, 374, when I was assisted by V. W. McNeil and W. Bro. McCamus; Jan. 12, Havelock, 435, when I was assisted by R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, V. W. H. C. Winch and W. Bro. Wensley; Feb. 15, Orono, 325; June 25, Fidelity, 428, Port Perry, when I was ably assisted by W. Bro. F. Harrison.

All the Lodges with three exceptions paid the usual fee of \$5 towards my expenses, so I have nothing to complain of in that line.

On Monday, April 16th, we held a very successful Lodge of Instruction under the warrant of Faithful Brethren Lodge, 77, at Lindsay. Owing to the enthusiastic manner of the Masons of Lindsay, led by His Honor, R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, all the visitors had a good time. The morning session was taken up with a general talk on the condition of Masonry in general, and our district in particular. In the afternoon W. Bro. Collinson and officers of Ontario Lodge, No. 26, of Port Hope, gave the first degree in splendid style. The criticisms were very few indeed. This was followed by: Proper manner of examining visitors and vouching. In the evening W. Bro. G. H. Linton and officers of Orono Lodge, advanced a member of their Lodge by request. This degree was also given with dash and at the same

time care. This was followed by Arcadia Lodge, 440, W. Bro. A. H. Brandon, W. M., assisted by W. Bro. Watson and officers, who gave the third degree in an almost faultless manner. This was the more noteworthy, as the members had never seen the degrees given outside their own Lodge room before. Altogether the Masons who attended, to the number of over 150, were well pleased and received a large amount of instruction. The Lindsay brethren had a splendid banquet, presided over by His Honor R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, after the Lodge closed, when the usual toasts were given and ably replied to.

Acting on plan laid down by my predecessor, I have arranged my report as to number of Lodge and not date of visit.

Ontario, 26, Port Hope, July 6th: W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Young and his officers gave the first degree in a very careful and impressive manner. The books are well kept and the Lodge is in a good position, but the dues ought to be collected better than they are. Attendance very good.

Composite 30, Whitby, June 14: W. Bro. Hatch, with his well-known ability, gave the third degree, assisted by R. W. A. Ross and W. Bro. Linton. This Lodge works well and the Secretary looks well after the dues. The attendance was good and great interest was shown in the business on hand.

Jerusalem, 31, Bowmanville, June 13: Wor. Bro. D. Burk Simpson, I. P. M., gave the first degree in a most impressive, if liberal, manner. W. Bro. Blair showed much greater care and exactness in the second degree. The Wardens (especially J. W.) did their work well. Attendance good, and all take a great interest in Masonry, especially the I. P. M., W. Bro. Simpson. This Lodge has made the largest gain in the district. Books in good condition and dues very well collected.

Mount Zion, 39, Brooklin, June 12: First degree given in a very careful manner. Owing to its small jurisdiction we can't expect this Lodge to grow very much. Books all right and dues fairly well collected. W. Bro. Armour is the mainstay of the Lodge.

Durham, 66, Newcastle, June 19: The third degree was well given by I. P. M. Rev. J. Faircourt and Wardens. The W. M., Dr. A. Faircourt, cannot devote

enough time from his practice. They are very comfortable in their new hall and are taking a greater interest in Masonry than ever. Dues ought to be collected much better than they are.

Faithful Brethren, 77, Lindsay: My first visit was on Dec. 1, 1899, when officers were elected and I introduced the question of holding a Lodge of Instruction in Lindsay; March 22, 1900, when I completed arrangements for a Lodge of Instruction on June 1st, 1900, when I saw two candidates initiated. I. P. M. Wor. Bro. McMahon assisted the W. M. All the officers, but especially the Junior Warden, gave the work in a very creditable manner. On this occasion I had the very great pleasure of presenting a fine gold P. M. Jewel, suitably inscribed, to W. Bro. McMahon, who well deserved it. This Lodge, from being almost at stagnation point, has revived wonderfully, largely owing to the energetic work of R. W. Bros. Harding and Armour and W. Bro. Baker and others. Books are well kept, but dues ought to be better looked after. Attendance and interest of the best. Prospects very good.

Corinthian, 101, Peterboro, April 11th and May 9th: I had the pleasure of seeing two seconds and two thirds. This Lodge is one of the most perfect workers in the district, as W. Bro. Beatty would sooner talk Masonry any day than eat. Books are well kept, but dues ought to be better looked after. Prospects bright.

Hope, 114, Port Hope, July 6: W. Bro. Collinson gave the second degree in a very exact and careful manner. They had given the first in splendid form at our Lodge of Instruction. Books are well kept, but dues are poorly paid up. Attendance and interest good.

Lebanon, 139, Oshawa, June 15th: W. Bro. Dicky was ably assisted by Wor. Bro. Punshon, in a liberal manner, in exemplifying the third. The Wardens and Deputies also did their work well. Prospects are good and dues fairly well collected.

J. B. Hall, 145, Oct. 12, 1899: On this occasion I was assisted by V. W. Bro. Munro and W. Bro. McCamus. W. Bro. Smith and officers, especially the I. G., exemplified the third degree in a very careful manner. The books are very well kept and only four members over twelve months behind.

Peterboro, 155, Peterboro, May 4 and 25: W. Bro.

Rev. W. L. Armitage and officers, assisted by P. M.'s, conferred three thirds and two thirds in an almost faultless manner. Owing to meeting often, and the very great interest taken in Masonry in the town, Peterboro heads the list as being the largest by far in the district. W. Bro. R. W. McFadden is a model Secretary, but too many members are behind in paying their dues. Prospects are the best.

Norwood, 223, Norwood, Jan. 9th: I installed Wor. Bro. Dr. Moffatt as W. M., and another Doctor as J. W., and I looked in vain for good reports of Old Norwood. Masonry seems to be very flat, and unless some revival takes place 223 will have to be closed up. There is no reason why Masonry should not flourish in Norwood as it once did.

Verulam, 268, Bobcaygeon, Feb. 20: I am sorry to report prospects as being extremely poor. There were about 20 members out to welcome me, and I think with united action something could yet be done. Meetings are very irregular.

Cedar, 270, Oshawa, June 15: W. Bro. Henry and Wardens exemplified parts of the degrees and other work in a very careful manner, but ought to be more exact. Books fairly well kept and dues better looked after than usual. Prospects very good.

Clementi, 313, Lakefield, March 13th: I visited this, my Mother Lodge, on this date and had a splendid reception. V. W. Munro was out and looked very well in the Grand Lodge regalia presented by the Lodge as a token of his great interest in the Lodge's welfare. The W. M. and officers gave two thirds in an exceedingly exact manner, and they were sure of the work in every particular. The model Secretary, Bro. R. Q. Dench, was, as usual, out. Books well cared for and dues are well looked after. Prospects good.

Orono, 325, Orono, Feb. 15th: On this occasion I had the pleasure of installing an old P. M., W. Bro. G. H. Linton, after which two candidates were initiated in a careful manner, but with a certain dash and spirit. The attendance was good and greater interest is being taken in lodge matters. Books look well and dues very well looked after. Prospects very good.

Keene, 374, Keene: As I have been Secretary of this Lodge for several years, I will not say very much. I

installed the officers on Jan. 11, assisted by V. W. Bro. McNeil and W. Bro. McCamus. We are very particular as regards the material brought up, and consequently our numbers are not large. Owing to the removal of the W. M., the Rev. J. Bushell, the work fell on the P. M.'s. W. Bro. McCamus gave the first and second and V. W. Bro. McNeil the third with their usual ability.

Lorne, 375, Omemee, May 17: I was again assisted by V. W. Bro. Munro and W. Bro. the Rev. William Farncomb, of Fenelon Falls. This lodge needs no old-time revival, and is getting into a better financial condition, and if the dues were collected properly they would be all right. Prospects should be all right.

Victoria, 398, Kirkefield, June 5th: A good attendance and lots of interest, but something seems lacking. The W. M. and officers have the work up well. Here, as in all small places, young men join and then seek new pastures, so that although a large number pass through, they do not build up the local Lodge. I have not received the returns from the Secretary so far.

The Spry, 406, Fenelon Falls, June 6th: I saw one second and one third conferred in a fair manner by Wor. Bro. Dr. Graham and Wardens. R. W. Bro. Fitzgerald is very enthusiastic. Wor. Bro. Wm. Farncomb is one of the most energetic Masons in the district. Books well managed and dues not bad.

Murray, 408, Beaverton, Feb. 13: This was a very stormy night, but a number of the members walked six and eight miles to attend the meeting. W. Bro. Williamson is very earnest and pushing. This Lodge has lost two brothers by death during the year, and I hope Grand Lodge will act in the matter, especially of the widow and family of our late Bro. McArthur. Books well managed and dues all paid up. This is the best Lodge in Ontario District for this.

Fidelity, 428, Port Perry, June 25: On this visit I assisted W. Bro. F. Harrison at installation of the officers. The room is one of the best and all the work and management is very exact; in fact, none better for all-round care and attention to constitution and details. Books are the neatest I have seen yet, excepting, perhaps Bro. Dench's, of 313. W. Bro. Spence is the right man in the right place. Dues are well looked after. W. Bro. Armour gave me a very pleasant drive from Myrtle.

Havelock, 435, Havelock, Jan. 12: I installed the officers, being ably assisted by R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, V. W. Bro. H. C. Winch and W. Bro. C. Wensley. This is a good working lodge and is largely due to the hard work of P. M. Williams and W. M. Dodds. Books have been well handled and dues are not bad.

Arcadia, 440, Minden, May 11: I will not soon forget my trip to our Baby Lodge. Eight miles of awful road, but the reception afterwards will amply repay a visit to Arcadia, Minden. W. Bro. Brandon and officers assisted by W. Bro. Watson, I. P. M., conferred a third on a brother who came over 30 miles. The work was well done. Books are very neat and dues well collected. Prospects are good.

I must thank the brethren for their uniform courtesy and kindness in many ways. The welcome was a true Masonic one. The expenses were met, even in some cases the hotel bill being paid. No D. D. G. M. will have more pleasant memories of visits to the Lodges of Ontario District than I will.

I must mention, before I close this rambling report, the great loss to Masonry in the district by the death of R. W. Bro. the Rev. V. Clementi, P. G. C., and for many years Chaplain of Corinthian Lodge, 101.

At each official visit I always found out how the P. M. degree was given, and in most cases gave the secret work. All the Lodges have the opening and closing up pat.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN M. SHAW, D. D. G. M.,
Ontario District, No. 12.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present the following report on the Condition of Masonry in the Thirteenth Masonic District for the past year.

My first official act was to appoint Bro. Rev. M. W. McLean, M., A., District Chaplain, and V. Wor. Bro. Wm. McKeown, of The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, as District Secretary, to whom I am under many obligations for their efficient services so cheerfully rendered. I have visited officially all the Lodges in the district, on regular nights of meeting, giving the W. M. due notice of the intended visit, and all were well attended. I am pleased to say that in every Lodge harmony prevails, and with very few exceptions the Worshipful Masters and officers are well skilled and a credit to the Craft. Any criticisms of needed corrections were given the W. M. and officers at the close of the Lodge, and were received in the best spirit.

The brethren of this district having selected me to the honorable position of D. D. G. M. at the last meeting of Grand Lodge at Ottawa, I take this opportunity of expressing to them my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me, and also for the courtesy and hospitality extended to me by the officers and members of all the Lodges on the occasion of my official visits.

Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18: My first official visit was made to Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18, Sept. 14th. I was accompanied by W. Bros. Morden, Newton, McKeown, and a large number of brethren. We were received, entertained and banquetted most loyally, for which this Lodge has deservedly the highest reputation. I also felt highly honored by the presence of R. W. Bro. Stafford, P. D. D. G. M., and so many brethren from

Star in the East, Deseronto and Lake Lodges. The W. M., Bro. Spafford, had work for all the degrees, but as we arrived a little late there was only time for one initiation, which was very creditably performed. The distinct enunciation of the W. M. and his officers deserve the highest commendation. The J. W., Dr. Wright, gave his lecture, and also the charge almost verbatim, and impressively, and I congratulate the Lodge on their efficient Secretary and Treasurer, and the bright prospects of their Lodge.

Stirling Lodge, No. 69: Visited Stirling Lodge, No. 69, Sept. 21st, and was kindly welcomed by the W. M. and R. W. Bro. J. Shaw, P. D. D. G. M. The work consisted of two initiations, which were conferred by the W. M., W. Bowerman, in a commendable manner, being well supported by his officers. The J. W. gave his lecture for the first time very creditably. The Secretary's and Treasurer's books are neatly and correctly kept, and the dues well paid up. The Lodge is well conducted and its prospects good. The fourth degree proved a most pleasant and happy close to a very profitable meeting.

Tweed Lodge, No. 239: Visited Tweed Lodge, No. 239, Oct. 13th. Was accompanied by W. Bro. Mikel and a number of brethren, and we were kindly welcomed and well entertained. The third degree was conferred by the W. M. and his officers in a satisfactory manner. I regret to say that the amount of arrearage for dues is too large, and impressed upon the W. M. and his Secretary the importance of having the dues paid annually. I was assured that immediate steps would be taken to collect them, otherwise the Lodge is progressing favorably.

Franck Lodge, No. 127: Visited Franck Lodge, No. 127, Frankford, Oct. 16th, in company with Wor. Bros. Newton, Mikel, Morden, Frost and other brethren. The work was the passing of one candidate, which was performed satisfactorily by the W. M., Bro. Rose, and his officers. The dues are well paid up, and consequently the Lodge is in a good financial condition, which reflects much credit on the tactful management of its officers. The Secretary's and Treasurer's books are well and correctly kept. At the close all enjoyed the banquet, followed by the usual toasts, etc.

Marmora Lodge, No. 222: Visited Marmora Lodge, No. 222, Nov. 14th. Was accompanied by Bros. J. Phillips and A. Vandervoort, whose cheerful company was much enjoyed, as it is a long drive, and the warm welcome and the loyal manner we were entertained will be long remembered as one of the most pleasant evenings spent in any lodge room. There was no work, but from the way the Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, I was satisfied that the officers were highly efficient in their respective duties, and congratulate the Lodge on having such a bright and intelligent staff of officers. The Secretary, Bro. Hubbell, looks well after the dues and his books are a model of neatness. This Lodge owns their building and have a bright future.

United Lodge, No. 29: Visited United Lodge, No. 29, Brighton, Nov. 16th. There was a fair attendance. The rooms and banqueting hall are tastefully furnished and decorated with all the modern improvements, and well equipped for the purpose intended. No better in the district. There was no work. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees fairly well. Require more practice. Bro. Keeler is an up to date Secretary; only \$6 arrears in his books, which speaks volumes for the attachment of its members, and I gratefully acknowledge the kind reception and pleasant time spent around the festive board.

Consecon Lodge, No. 50: Visited Consecon Lodge, No. 50, Nov. 17th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. Barrager. There was a good attendance, and had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Stafford and Dr. Thornton, P. D. D. G. M.'s, and a great many members from Star in the East and Lake Lodges. There was no work. The Lodge was opened and closed in all the degrees, and I was well pleased with the way the officers acquitted themselves. W. M. Bro. D. H. Rowe is evidently the right man in the right place. The Secretary, Bro. Bowen's books, are neatly kept, and has the dues in good shape. Prospects of the Lodge are good. At the close a pleasant and profitable hour was spent in the banquet hall.

Lake Lodge, No. 215: Visited Lake Lodge. No. 215, Roblin's Mills, Dec. 11th. I had the pleasure of the genial company of Wor. Bros. Newton and Alford and a

number of other brethren. The wet evening and muddy roads did not prevent a large turnout of the members, including R. W. Bro. Stafford, P. D. D. G. M., who has done so much for the success of his Mother Lodge. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees efficiently. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. Geo. Roblin, is an adept at the work, as there are but few members in arrears. I congratulate the Lodge on having such an enthusiastic I. G. as Bro. Roblin, who has occupied the position 26 years, and whose welcome to every visiting brother is a benediction. The Lodge is doing well, with a bright outlook for the future. A pleasant hour was spent at the refreshment table, enlivened with speeches and songs.

St. John's Day, Dec. 27th.—This day for many years has been celebrated in Belleville by the Masonic fraternity with much enthusiasm. I had the honor and pleasant duty in response to the invitation of the Moira, The Belleville and Eureka Lodges, to instal their officers, assisted by R. W. Bro. A. McGinnis, whose ability and familiarity with the work enable him to render any assistance called upon to perform, and I will long remember gratefully the kind reception accorded to me. It is a cause of special gratification to me to be able to state that well qualified brethren have been selected to occupy the responsible positions of officers. At the close about 200 brethren repaired to the artistically decorated dining hall, where a magnificent bill of fare was prepared by Mine Host Bro. James Wallace, whose reputation as a caterer cannot easily be excelled, after which two hours were spent in responding to the usual toasts and songs, ably presided over by R. W. Bro. Henry Pringle, who added much to the social mirth and pleasure of the evening.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48: Visited Madoc Lodge, No. 48, Jan. 9th, accompanied by Wor. Bro. O'Flynn and a number of brethren, and were welcomed by a large attendance. The work was one initiation. Had much pleasure in observing the impressive and correct manner which the W. M., Bro. C. H. Tumelty, conferred this degree, who was well supported by his newly-installed staff of officers. The Secretary's and Treasurer's books are correctly kept, but more tact will be necessary to reduce the amount of dues, an essential factor in the suc-

cessful working of any lodge. The brethren have a fine hall, well furnished and out of debt, commencing the year with plenty of work ; prospects first-class. At the close the usual repast was served, all separating in peace and harmony.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91: Visited Colborne Lodge, No. 91, Jan. 12th. The work was the installation of officers, which was performed by R. W. Bro. G. R. Wilson, P. D. D. G. M., assisted by the W. M., and one initiation, which duty was conferred creditably, and I congratulate the Lodge in the wisdom displayed in the selection of its officers, who are not excelled in the district. The J. W. gave his lecture in an impressive and faultless manner. The rooms are beautifully turned with all the requisites for comfort, convenience and work, and much of its success must be attributed to their admirable Secretary, who has filled the office for over 30 years to the entire satisfaction of all, and has not been absent one meeting, which is no doubt a record-breaker for the district. At the close a feast of reason and a flow of soul ended a very enjoyable evening.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126: Visited Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126, Campbellford, Feb. 9th. There was no work. The Lodge was opened and closed in all the degrees. The W. M., Bro. Pollard, is an energetic Mason, and is much interested in the welfare of his Lodge. The Secretary, W. Bro. Geo. T. Dickson's books show that there are not more than \$20 of arrears, and that the Secretary does his work thoroughly and well. At the close an adjournment was made to the dining hall, where a pleasant and sociable time was spent.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 164: Visited Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, Wellington, Feb. 13th, accompanied by Wor. Bros. Morden and Dulmage, and were cordially welcomed by a large membership and many visiting brethren from Consecon and Prince Edward Lodges. Their enthusiasm, good work, wise management and hospitality are easily up to the best in the district. The work was in the second and third degrees, and was performed in a faultless manner by every officer, and won the admiration of all present. I invariably find that when the W. M. manifests a deep interest in the well-being of his Lodge and perfects himself in the work, that his officers show their appreciation by

an assiduous attention to the duties of their office and by a regular attendance. The S. W. gave his lecture effectively. The Secretary, Wor. Bro. Cunningham, has the dues well collected and his books are neatly kept. The brethren have very comfortable rooms, well furnished and attractive. We were hospitably entertained at the close.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283: Visited Eureka Lodge, No. 283, Belleville, Feb. 21st. There was a good attendance of its members, and also a large number of visitors. The work of the evening consisted in conferring the third degree, which was done by the W. M., Bro. Brickman, in a correct and impressive manner. He has a clear and effective voice and makes a good impression on the candidate. All the officers thoroughly understand the manner in which the work should be done, and see that it is properly carried out. R. Wor. Bro. Wm. Webster has been Treasurer for many years, and his books are always correct and he is held in high esteem by the brethren. The books of his lodge are especially well and neatly kept and finances carefully looked after by their very efficient Secretary, Bro. W. Jeffers Diamond. The Lodge is prosperous and prospects good. I was much pleased with my visit, the work done and hospitality of the brethren at the close.

The Belleville Lodge, No. 123: Visited Belleville Lodge, No. 123, March 1st, and was accorded a warm welcome. The work was conferring the first degree by the W. M., Bro. J. S. McKeown, in a very impressive manner, and a more affable and courteous brother could not be found to fill this important position. This Lodge has been peculiarly fortunate for many years in having Masters noted for their executive abilities, and have paid a good deal of attention to giving valuable lectures on Masonry. Bro. H. J. Clarke gave the J. W.'s lecture verbatim et liberatim, and discharges the duties of his office second to none. Bro. Knight, S. D., also by his ability, adds much to the good standing of the Lodge. R. W. Bro. J. Smith has been Treasurer for many years, and his books are always correct. W. Bro. Adams, P. M., is a model Secretary and keeps his books neat and concise, and allows none to remain in arrears for dues very long. Consequently the amount of arrearage is small and the financial standing of the

Lodge is good. The amount of work on hand and in prospect bids fair to make this a banner year for Belleville Lodge. All were entertained at the close in a manner worthy of this Lodge.

Craig Lodge, No. 401: Visited Craig Lodge, No. 401, Deseronto, March 6th, in company with W. Bros. Newton, Dulmage and O'Flynn and a number of brethren, and met with a very cordial reception. There was a fair attendance. The Lodge room is well and neatly furnished, its financial condition good, and the books are in the hands of an efficient Secretary and Treasurer. The work was in the second degree and was conferred by the W. M. and his officers very satisfactorily. The S. W. gave his lecture accurately. At the close all were entertained hospitably. The visitors added much to the social enjoyment.

Trent Lodge, No. 38: Visited Trent Lodge, No. 38, Trenton, March 13th, and had the company of W. Bros. Wm. Alford and George Dulmage and other brethren. There was a good attendance of members and a large number of visitors from Lake, Consecon and Brighton Lodges. The work was the initiation of one candidate by the Wor. M., Bro. Robinson, which was performed in an up to date manner, the officers doing their part with promptness and correctness. The J. W., Dr. J. W. Farley, gave his lecture admirably. Their Lodge room is well furnished and comfortable. The Secretary's and Treasurer's books are in good shape, and financially the Lodge is in good standing. At the close the usual refreshments were provided, followed by a good programme of toasts and songs.

Percy Lodge, No. 161: Visited Percy Lodge, No. 161, Warkworth, March 14th. The work was in the third degree and was conferred by the Wor. M., Bro. Humphrey, who does his work well and worthy of imitation, and was well supported by an efficient staff of officers. The Secretary, Bro. Padginton, keeps his books in excellent form and is a prompt correspondent. Financially the Lodge is all right. At the close a very pleasant time was spent around the festive board.

Moir Lodge, No. 11: Visited Moira Lodge, No. 11, Belleville, April 11th. My intention was to make my last official visit to my mother lodge, so that I might know exactly how it compared with the other lodges,

but in deference to the wish of Cobourg Lodge my visit there was postponed to May. However, I can truly say that it will compare favorably with the best in the district, which is saying a good deal, as there are many Lodges hard to excel in their work and carefulness as to membership, finances, constitution and by-laws. The enthusiastic and loyal welcome I received from my Mother Lodge, enhanced by the presence of R.W. Bros. A. McGinnis, Henry Pringle and H. G. Stafford, P. D. D. G. M.'s, and so many visiting brethren from Frank, Deseronto, Lake, Stirling, Trent and Sister Lodges were convincing that I still hold a warm place in the hearts of my brethren, and was an inspiration I shall never forget, and an incentive to renewed diligence in old Moira's prosperity. Not old in the sense of decay, because it is as young and active as it ever was, but the oldest and wealthiest in the district, and only exceeded by Picton Lodge in its membership. There were 6 for initiation, 1 for affiliation, 7 for passing, and 3 for raising, thus showing the activity and progressiveness of the Lodge. R. W. Bro. A. McGinnis was then called upon to give his carefully prepared address on extracts from the Minutes of Moira Lodge from its earliest formation, which was replete with desirable information, and was received with much commendation. The work done this evening was one initiation by the W. M., Bro. C. D. Ashley, and his staff of carefully trained officers, and who, I am proud to know, still maintain Moira's high standing, following in the footsteps of the I. P. M. W., S. Morden, who added much to the status of the Lodge, and whose record has not been excelled. This Lodge is highly favored by having such an efficient Treasurer for the past 15 years as R. W. Bro. McGinnis, whose wise forethought in placing the funds of the Lodge where they would be most beneficial, is now shown by their returns. The Secretary, V. W. Bro. Newton, P. M., whose ability in any capacity in the work is unquestionable, and whose books show carefulness and neatness, and that the dues are well attended to. At the close an excellent repast was provided, followed by a choice programme, presided over by Wor. Bro. W. S. Morden, bringing a very enjoyable evening to a close.

St. John's Lodge, No. 17: Visited St. John's Lodge,

No. 17, Cobourg, May 8th, accompanied by W. Bro. W. S. Morden. There was a good attendance, who gave us a cordial welcome. The W. M., Bro. Bickle, expected to have work in the third degree, but it did not materialize, and as a result the only work done was the opening and closing the Lodge in all the degrees, which was done in a satisfactory manner. The Secretary's and Treasurer's books are neatly and correctly kept. V. W. Bro. Buck, the Secretary, has the dues well collected, and the Lodge is in a good financial position and prospects good. The proceedings terminated with the usual banquet and toasts.

The following deaths have been reported during the year, viz.:

Bro. Thomas Shannon, Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18, Picton, Aug. 6th, 1899.

Bro. Robert Hamilton, Trent Lodge, No. 38, Trenton, Oct. 6th, 1899.

Bro. James Pettitt, member of Havelock Lodge, buried by Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, Wellington, Jan. 27th, 1900.

Bro. D. B. Solmes, Prince Edward Lodge, No. 38, Picton, Feb. 2nd, 1900.

Dispensations were issued to the following Lodges for the purpose of attending Divine Service:

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126, Campbellford, August 27th, 1899.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283, Belleville, June 24th, 1900.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91, Colborne, June 24th, 1900.

The expenses connected with my official visits have been promptly met with without exception.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the M. W. Grand Master, E. T. Malone, and R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, for their prompt attention and assistance in anything I required, and also to so many of the brethren of Belleville for their genial company on so many of my official visits, and shall always remember with pleasure the many kindnesses I have met with from my brethren throughout the district, and for cheerfully accepting my judgment in matters that came under my consideration. I retire from the responsible position with considerable satisfaction, knowing that Masonry is steadily improving, and surrender the gavel of office to

my successor, wishing him as pleasant and harmonious
a year as that just closed.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

W. LATTIMER, D. D. G. M.,

Prince Edward District, No. 13.

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER :

The year has passed, and it is with pleasure that I lay down the jewel of office, feeling certain that the district has many faithful and skilful brethren who will reflect credit upon the office and be the means of advancing the interest of the Craft in the Fourteenth Masonic District.

In submitting for your consideration my report upon the condition of the Craft in this district I desire to state that those principles which are taught so strongly by our Order, have marked the characters of the brethren so that they are not looking ever upon their own things, but unselfishly looking to help each other.

The Lodges in the district have been visited by me, with the exception of the Elysian, No. 212, which is located on a small island (Garden), directly opposite the City of Kingston, and has amongst its members those who are indefatigable in their labors for the Order, yet, owing to their locality, it is difficult to find material upon which the working tools of the Order can be laid, yet this Lodge is true to the principles and displays much energy. I am in hopes that it may yet become strong in members while it continues to hold so many strong members.

The progress of the Craft has been very satisfactory during the year, the officers performing their work in a very creditable manner, and in many cases ably supported by those who have passed through the chairs, still finding pleasure in the work they do in helping their younger brethren. It would not be in place for me to specially mention any Lodge, as they are all deserving of praise, for the interest, attention and uniformity of work. Eight of the Lodges show increases

in membership, four have decreased and two retain their position in numbers. Cataraqui, No. 92, of Kingston, leads the list, closely followed by Union, of Napanee, while The Ancient St. John's, of Kingston; Leeds, of Gananoque, and Lorne, of Tamworth, each add the perfect number seven to their roll of membership. The work of the district will be evidenced perhaps more by their contributions to charity, as I find that \$355 has been expended during the year by the Lodges.

"When charity prevails the Lodge will prove
A vehicle of virtue, truth and love."

Care seems to be adopted by the Lodges in the protection which insurance companies afford, as the Lodge properties in the district have over \$5,000 of insurance against loss by fire.

There has existed the greatest of harmony; not one grievance to jar upon the strings that should and do make life worth living.

Hoping that a Lodge of Instruction would be of service in the district, I communicated with the three Lodges of my city, who entered heartily into the work, giving me every assistance toward bringing such to a successful issue. I appointed R. W. Bro. Robert Hendry, P. D. D. G. M., as District Secretary, to whose untiring zeal and energy I owe much of the success of the gathering. The circular sent to the several Lodges called the meeting for the 31st May, 1900, and stated: "The object of the Lodge is to have uniformity of work, to cultivate a better acquaintance, and to discuss matters pertaining to the welfare of the Craft." The work in the various degrees was performed by Past Masters and other officers from every Lodge in the district, who cheerfully rendered assistance. I regretted that circumstances prevented Simpson Lodge, of Newboro, from participating in the work.

During the exemplification of the work in the three degrees over fifty brethren took part. The evening session was attended by over three hundred brethren, representing every part of the district, some coming over 70 miles to assist in the portion of the work assigned their Lodge. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master was received at the evening session, and honored the district by his presence, and was honored by the district by the

genuine hearty reception accorded him; and the work in the sublime degree was as creditably performed as ever it could be, either within this or any other jurisdiction, members of seven lodges taking part in such work.

The Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Kingston: Was one of the first Lodges which I officially visited, on the 5th of October. I there saw the work in the first degree exemplified, and the Worshipful Master, W. B. Dalton, with his staff of officers, ably sustained the reputation of this Lodge, which is one of the oldest in the jurisdiction. While it boasts of many men of rank, there are in it, I regret to say, those who from pressure of business seldom assist in the work. There are, however, a few who can always be counted upon for any work that may be required.

Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee: This Lodge was visited by me on the 9th of February, 1900, when the work in the first degree was exemplified, W. Bro. Herrington showing himself proficient in elocution, which always adds much in the ritualistic part of our work. He was ably assisted by his officers. One feature that I have not seen in any other Lodge was that some of the younger brethren were appointed to offices, and in the discharge of the same proved that it is not length of service, but ability in the service, that counts. Those who only labored during the eleventh hour were found as worthy as those who had been bearing the heat and burden of the day. This Lodge has been doing good work, having good material, which promises much for the future.

Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, Kingston: My Mother Lodge was officially visited by me on the 8th of November, 1899. Found a large number of brethren present. W. R. Bro. John Gordon and his officers did the work of the second degree in a manner that showed that zeal and accuracy hold a strong place in this lodge. W. Bro. Smeaton displayed much talent in giving the lecture on the tracing board. The financial standing of this lodge, which was at a low ebb a few years ago, has risen so that under their very careful officers the outlook is bright.

Albion Lodge, No. 109, Harrowsmith: This Lodge was visited by me on the 13th of April, 1900. R. Wor. Bro. F. S. Wartman occupied the Master's place, owing

to the absence of the Master. He, with his officers, exemplified the second degree, the work being put on as well as it could be in any part of the district. This Lodge has had its seasons of difficulties, but with the brethren who are now closely associated with it, giving their time and work, bringing harmony and good feeling among all its members, it will stand in the front of those Lodges which have great zeal for good work. The Secretary of this Lodge is Bro. James Cooke, who is the oldest officer in the district, and is quite an authority on Masonic jurisprudence.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath: Was visited by me on the 12th of March, 1900, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Henry J. Wilkinson, W. Bro. R. E. Burns and Bro. James Ross. Rev. Dr. Saundes, W. M., with his officers, in a very efficient manner performed the work in the second degree. This Lodge has some excellent material among its members and they should make the old town of Bath well known by their adherence to the ancient landmarks, which by the harmony that prevails among the brethren will, no doubt, bear fruit for good.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 146, Newburgh: Was visited by me on the 7th of February, 1900, when I witnessed the work in the third degree given by W. Bro. R. Guy, assisted by his excellent staff of officers. This lodge owns the building in which it meets, and while there is a small debt thereon, yet it seems that in a very short time such will be cancelled and then the lodge will feel that other interests can be served in a better manner than at present. I had the pleasure of meeting the two P. D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bro. R. W. Longmore and R. W. Bro. G. Anson Aylesworth, who are of much help in the working of the Lodge.

Simpson Lodge, No. 157, Newbore: This Lodge was visited by me on the 12th of December, 1899. There was no work on the summons, so I had the W. M. open and close the Lodge in the several degrees, which showed an aptness in the work. During the evening there were present R. W. Bros. Lewis and Dr. Preston, who give much attention to the working of the Lodge.

Leeds Lodge, No. 201, Gananogue: Was visited by me on the 13th of February, 1900, when W. Bro. John Kee, assisted by his efficient staff of officers, exemplified the work in the first degree in a very creditable manner.

There were many visitors from Oshawa at the meeting owing to the carriage works being operated in the town. Bro. F. J. Skinner, Senior Warden, gave the lecture on the tracing board. The brethren take much interest in their Lodge and take pride in the manner in which the work is done. The prospects of the Lodge are good, and the material taken in is among the best.

Prince Arthur, No. 228, Odessa: Not being my own master, to my great regret, I had to disappoint the brethren of this Lodge, but the officers and brethren evinced their loyalty to the Grand Lodge by overlooking my unavoidable absence and by turning out a month later in large numbers to give the representative of the Grand Lodge a right hearty welcome. W. Bro. R. L. Gilbert with his officers exemplified the work in the first degree, and showed themselves very conversant with the work. The Lodge is doing good work, the best of harmony prevails among the brethren, and the officers are anxious to maintain the good record which they deserve to hold.

Minden, No. 253, Kingston: Was visited on the 3rd of October, 1899. Wor. Bro. Nicolle, Master of the Lodge, with his efficient staff of officers, exemplified the work in the second degree. The work of this lodge ranks with the best, the W. M. and officers giving much time to it, and their zeal is bearing fruit, not only in the manner in which the work is performed and the ancient charges observed, but also in the manner in which the principles of the Order are inculcated and lived up to. R. W. Bro. Fred Welsh, P. D. D. G. M., renders very efficient service to this, his Lodge. The financial standing of the Lodge is good and the prospects are bright.

Victoria Lodge, No. 299, Centreville: It was a very stormy evening on which I visited this Lodge, the 8th of February, 1900. I found only seven present. The Lodge was opened by W. Bro. A. B. Carscallen, P. M., who, with his officers, showed an acquaintance with the work that did them credit. There was no work and the Lodge had been somewhat dormant. The building is owned by the Lodge free from incumbrance. The evening was spent in devising ways and means of advancing the interests of the Lodge, and I am delighted to find that the prospects are brightening. At present work is presenting itself, and I hope that soon this lodge

will be among the first in the district. The best of harmony exists among the members, and also with the other Lodges in their proximity.

Lorne, No. 404, Tamworth: Was visited on the 10th of March, 1900. I found a large number of members present. The W. M., John McKnight, assisted by his efficient staff of officers, exemplified the work in the second degree in a creditable manner. During the evening I had the pleasure of presenting, in behalf of the Lodge, a Past Master's Jewel to W. Bro. C. R. Jones, P. M. of the Lodge, who is an excellent worker and one highly appreciated by his brethren. This Lodge has been doing good work and has a splendid class of members. I was pleased to find several clergymen, representing various religious denominations, in attendance.

Westport, No. 441: This Lodge was visited by me on the 11th of December, 1899. Unfortunately there was no work on the tracing board. Wor. M. Robert Flagg, with his officers, opened and closed the Lodge in the several degrees in a praiseworthy manner. This is the Baby Lodge of the district, and it has shown a zeal that has brought forth much fruit, so that the membership is among the best in the locality, and the financial standing is excellent.

The various Secretaries are deserving of much thought and praise, for the success of the lodge depends largely on their zeal and the faithful service rendered by them. Among those who discharge the duties of this responsible office this district has many brethren of rank and great ability. I can safely say that with perhaps one exception my labors have been lightened by the efforts of these officials, who deserve the greatest consideration from their brethren.

The scythe of Time, wielded by that unseen hand, which is no respecter of persons, has been gleaning in many of our fields, cutting down some of the noblest and best of the Craft, whose names will, I have no doubt, be recalled ere this Grand Lodge closes its session. Cataraqui, No. 92, mourns the loss of three from its ranks, while The Ancient St. John's, No. 3; Union, No. 9; Prince of Wales, No. 146; Simpson, No. 157; Leeds, No. 201, and Prince Arthur, No. 228, each have paid the last sad rites to one of their numbers.

The Festival of St. John the Baptist falling upon a

Sunday, I was called upon by the following Lodges for dispensations to permit the brethren to attend Divine Service on that day as A. F. and A. Masons: Leeds, No. 201; Lorne, No. 404, and Victoria, No. 299. From the reports of these gatherings I am assured that much good will result to the Order in these localities intellectually, morally and numerically.

The report is written, my work done; how, I fear to answer, yet, however imperfect it has been, such has been occasioned by my continued absence from the district, and is not in any respect chargeable to the members of the Craft, who in every manner possible made my year's work one of much pleasure. My reception was always of the most cordial nature, and through the Grand Lodge I desire to express my thanks to the Masters of the several Lodges, with their officers and members, for the assistance given; also the P. D. D. G. M.'s, who were ever ready to lend me their aid in counsel or work, and to the very large delegation, which at the last meeting of Grand Lodge in Ottawa elected me as their D. D. G. M., and which has so faithfully supported me during the year.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. SHAW, D. D. G. M.,
Frontenac District, No. 14.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Frontenac District, No. 14, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Mem-ber-ship.	Degrees conferred.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Regular.	Emergency.	Meet-ings held.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief in arrears.	No of members 18 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
3	Anc't-Joe's	Kingston	145	7	9	11	1	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	24	20	\$61 00	4	\$59 00	Dec. 27, 1899	Good	Vy Good	Yes	\$ 870
9	Union	Napanee	84	8	7	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	22	25 50	13	68 00	Dec. 29, '99	Good	Good	Yes	1,000
93	Catawaqui	Kingston	129	20	16	16	10	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	27	15	67 00	8	68 00	Dec. 30, '99	Vy Good	Vy Good	Yes	900
109	Albion	Harrowsmith	56	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	13 00	13	117 00	Dec. 30, '99	Good	All right	Yes	600
119	Maple Leaf	Bath	37	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	9	10 00	5	94 00	Jan. 24, 1900	Good	Good	Yes	150
146	Pr. of Wales	Newborough	44	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	9	70 00	10	90 00	Dec. 27, 1899	Solvent	Fair	Yes	400
157	Simpson	Newboro	60	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10	30 00	49	190 00	Jun. 27, '99	Good	Vy Good	Yes	500
301	Leeds	Gardens	97	1	9	9	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	31	15 00	23	116 25	Dec. 27, '99	A 1	Good	Yes	600
312	Elysian	Garden Island	34	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	30 00	10	90 00	Jun. 24, 1900	Good	Fair	Yes	500
388	Pr. Arthur	Odesse	76	5	3	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	17 50	10	90 00	Jun. 24, 1900	Good	Good	Yes	570
353	Minden	Kingston	33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	9	10 00	6	42 00	Dec. 27, 1899	Good	Good	Yes	500
399	Victoria	Centreville	41	7	3	3	3	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	.....	10	56 50	Jun. 24, '99	Good	Brighter	Yes	150
404	Lorne	Tamworth	29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	.....	6	56 50	Jun. 24, '99	Good	Good	Yes	150
441	Westport	Westport	29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	13	.....	3	11 50	Jan. 8, 1900	Good	Good	Yes	150

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Masonry in my district for the year ending June 24th, A. D. 1900. To the brethren of the district I fail to find words adequate to express my appreciation of the honor conferred upon me in electing me to the position of D. D. G. M. Also I desire to express my hearty thanks for the uniform courtesy and respect with which I have been received and entertained during my official visits.

I have visited all the Lodges in my district, and am happy to be able to report that on the whole Masonry is in a very satisfactory and prosperous condition and peace and harmony generally prevails. Throughout the district there was unanimous approval of bringing back suspended members and bringing into fellowship those unaffiliated, as mentioned in your address to Grand Lodge, and I believe good results will follow. Below is a report in detail as to each Lodge and date of visit :

April 16th, 1900, Sussex, No. 5, and Salem, No. 368, Brockville: This was a joint meeting, and there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate passed the second degree. Officers of both Lodges were thoroughly up in their work. Their lodge room is well fitted up, books properly and neatly kept, property well insured, perfect harmony exists, and the Lodges are in a prosperous condition.

June 4th, 1900, True Britons, No. 14, Perth: There was a good attendance of members and visitors. First and third degrees were conferred upon candidates, and the work throughout was done in a highly creditable manner. I cannot speak too highly in praise of the

work as exemplified by Wor. Bro. George McMartin, W. M. Secretary's books neat and properly kept, and Lodge prosperous.

March 16th, 1900, St. Francis, No. 24, Smith's Falls: There was a large attendance, including a number of visitors from Merrickville and North Augusta. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. A first and second degree was conferred upon candidates. Considering that all the officers were new, the work was very creditably exemplified. Books were neatly and properly kept by R. W. Bro. J. A. Houston, Secretary, and the Lodge is in a prosperous condition.

May 31st, 1900, Mount Zion, No. 28, Kemptville: There was a fair attendance. R. W. Bro. O. Bascom, W. M., in the chair. There being no candidate, the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The J. W. Bro. Emory, was called upon to give the lecture in the first degree, which was rendered in a most exemplary manner. Although not increasing in membership, the Lodge is in a healthy condition. Books properly kept and future prospects bright.

June 12th, 1900, Merrickville Lodge, No. 55: Fair attendance. A candidate received the third degree. The W. M. and S. W. being absent through illness, W. Bro. Angus and W. Bro. Magee filled the respective positions. Both being well skilled in the work, the degree was conferred in good form, and the charge was very creditably delivered to the candidate by W. Bro. Magee. The W. M. can confer the three degrees correctly. This Lodge has been very neatly fitted up; ceiling raised about three feet and decorated by pressed metal, with Masonic emblems; walls nicely papered, woodwork painted, furniture cleansed, upholstered and varnished, so that with the addition of a little new furniture this will be second to no Lodge in the district. Books are properly kept, and the Lodge is in good shape financially.

May 18, 1900, St. James, No. 74, Bethel: There was a good meeting, at which a number of visitors from Brockville were present. There being no candidate, the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. Officers were well up in their work. The Lodge room is neat and clean; books well kept; harmony and prosperity rule.

June 7th, Rising Sun, No. 85, Athens: The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The third degree was exemplified. The W. M. has his work well up, but is not well supported by his Wardens. The Lodge room was neat and well furnished; books fairly well kept. They have no proper register, and I recommended that one be procured. Members rather careless in their attendance.

April 3rd, 1900, Central Lodge, Prescott: There were two second and one third degree put on. Fair attendance. The work was demonstrated in an excellent manner. The W. M. and officers are thoroughly up in the work. The Lodge room is neat and well furnished. The Secretary, V. W. Bro. Wells, keeps his books in an excellent manner; in fact, they are a model for other Lodges to copy from. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition financially and otherwise.

April 6th, Cornwall Lodge, No. 125: There was a large attendance at this meeting, both of members and visitors. A third degree was conferred in a very commendable manner. The Wor. M. and his officers are thoroughly up in their work. This is a beautiful lodge room—large, neat and well furnished. The Lodge is in a flourishing condition and one of the best Lodges in the district. The books reflect great credit on the Secretary and Treasurer, on account of their neatness.

April 5th, Excelsior, No. 142, Morrisburg: Small attendance, only 13 being present. Owing, no doubt, to the bad state of the roads, many of the members residing in the country were absent. There was no candidate. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. W. M. and officers were not very well up in their work. There are still two factions in the Lodge, and harmony does not prevail, although I understand a better feeling exists now than was the case a year ago. The Lodge room is neat and well furnished. Books are well kept and financial standing good.

April 4th, Friendly Brothers, Iroquois, No. 143: A fair attendance of members and some visitors. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree was exemplified in a fairly good manner. This is a comfortable little Lodge room, neat and fairly well furnished. Members take an interest in the Lodge. Financial standing is good and the books well kept.

May 29th, Lancaster, No. 207: There were 15 present. The Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate received his Fellowcraft degree. The work was only fairly well done, the Wardens and Junior officers not being as well up as they should be. The officers are quite capable of putting on proper work by giving proper application to it. The lecture by the J. W. in the first degree and by the S. W. in the second degree were very well rendered. The Lodge room is neat, clean and well furnished, one of the neatest in the district. Finances in good shape and books well kept.

April 25th, 1900, Macoy, No. 242, Mallorytown: There was a good meeting, 34 being present. The Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree was exemplified. The work throughout was done very creditably, all being new officers and young members. The Lodge mourns the loss of their W. M., who was recently called to rest from his labor. The new W. M. was installed the evening after which he exemplified the work. Very good Lodge room, comfortable and fairly well furnished. The building is owned by the Lodge. Finances are in good shape. Harmony prevails. There is plenty of good new material and the members are most enthusiastic. There is a large increase of membership for the year.

May 28th, Farran's Point, No. 256: There were 15 present. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees and a candidate was initiated. Several of the officers were absent, including the S. W. The W. M. has his work well up and exemplified the first degree and opened and closed in good form. This Lodge has seventy members, is financially in good shape, fairly good Lodge room, well furnished and which they own clear of debt. Dues well paid up. Books are well kept. Many members reside in the country miles distant from the Lodge room.

March 27th, Chesterville, 320: There was a fair attendance. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees and a second degree was conferred. Work fairly well done. The Lodge room is poor, but fairly well furnished. Finances are in very good condition, and I believe it is their intention to secure a new Lodge room in the near future. The books are in a good condition.

May 22nd, Harmony, 370, Delta: There was a good attendance of members. A candidate was raised to the third degree in a very creditable manner, as was also the opening and closing in the three degrees. The W. M. and his officers are well up in their work. The books are well kept and financial standing is good. This is a beautiful Lodge room, well furnished and one of the best in the district. The premises belong to the Lodge.

March 26th, Henderson, No. 383, Winchester: Attendance good, including a number of visitors. Two candidates were expected for the third degree, but did not put in an appearance. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the work was exemplified in a very good manner. The officers and members seem to take much interest in the work. The Lodge room is poorly furnished and not suitable for the purpose. With the prospects of changing for better quarters this year, they prefer not expending any money in beautifying the present rooms. Books are properly kept and finances are in good condition.

April 26th, Lansdowne, No. 387: Small attendance—only ten present. Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and the first exemplified. Officers not very well up in their work. Deacons and Inner Guard absent. W. M. and S. W. both young Masons and desirous of getting up their work, part of which they have fairly well. The S. W. gave the lecture in the first degree in a very creditable manner indeed. This is still the weakest Lodge in the district, having but 21 members, an increase of 4 over last year. They have a very comfortable Lodge room. Finances in fair shape and books not very well kept. A complete new set and seal are being ordered.

June 6th, Crystal Fountain, No. 389, North Augusta: There were 23 present, including visitors from Smith's Falls and Merrickville. There being no candidate, the Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. Some of the officers were absent. Wor. Bro. Dr. Waddell, W. M., is well skilled in the work and enthusiastic, but does not receive the support he should, from the brethren, they being careless in attendance. Books fairly well kept. The building is owned by the Lodge.

April 27th, Lyn, No. 416: We had a good meeting there, including eleven visitors from Brockville. The

Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. This Lodge is officered by Past Masters, and consequently all competent and well up in the work. Lodge room is neat, comfortable and well furnished. Books are properly kept and finances in good shape.

April 20th, Maxville Lodge, No. 418: Present, 18. After opening and closing in the three degrees the first was exemplified, all of which was very creditably done. The W. M. is enthusiastic and has his work well up. The Lodge room is neat and well furnished. Financial standing good.

April 19th, No. 439, Alexandria: Eleven present on this occasion. A candidate was passed to the Fellowcraft degree. The W. M. has his work fairly well, but is not well supported by his Wardens. They have recently moved into new quarters, a decided improvement on the old Lodge room. Books are properly kept. Financial standing fair. Considerable dues outstanding, but they are making fair progress.

During the year I have issued the following dispensations to attend Divine Service, as follows. To Macoy Lodge, No. 242, on Oct. 1st, 1899; to Salem Lodge, No. 368, and St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, on June 24th, A. D. 1900.

During the year there have been several deaths in the district not reported to me. Those reported to me are as follows: Bro. Murdoch L. Stewart, S. W., Maxville Lodge, No. 418, Maxville; Bro. Aleander Cameron, of Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall.

I regret to say that some of the statistical blanks sent by me to the various Secretaries have not yet been returned and I am in consequence unable to give a full report of the work done in the district, but hope still to receive them in time for insertion before the reports go into the hands of the printer. This is a matter that should have the prompt attention of the Secretaries, so that the reports can be completed and forwarded to the Grand Secretary by the proper time.

In conclusion, I wish to extend my fraternal thanks to R. W. Bro. J. A. Houston, P. D. D. G. M., St. Lawrence District, of St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls; Wor. Bros. S. R. Stayner, of Salem Lodge, No. 368, Brockville, and H. F. Dees, of Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott; also Bro. A. E. Baker, of Merrickville

Lodge, No. 55, Merrickville, and others, for their many acts of kindness during the past year. I have deemed it unnecessary to go into details of the many banquets tendered me during my official visits.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

R. W. WATCHORN, D. D. G. M.,
St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit to you the following report on the state of Masonry in the Sixteenth Masonic District during the past year. I have visited every Lodge in the district and am pleased to be able to state that the condition of nearly every Lodge is good, the work being well exemplified and general harmony prevailing.

The instructions which the D. D. G. M.'s received at the installation were not only helpful to us personally, but enabled us to assist in making the work more uniform throughout the district.

In the course of my visits I have impressed upon the brethren the necessity for greater accuracy in their work so as to secure this uniformity. I endeavored also to direct the attention of the Secretaries to the advisability of collecting the dues regularly, thus preventing heavy arrearages, and urged the brethren to aid the Secretaries in their duties by being prompt in their payments. I also laid stress upon the beneficial results that would follow from greater punctuality in opening the Lodges. Early hours would secure a larger attendance and keener interest in the work.

Amendments to By-Laws :

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa.

The following dispensations were granted through me by the M. W. the Grand Master :

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, to elect officers.

Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville, to instal officers.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa, to hold an "At-Home."

I granted dispensations to the following Lodges to attend Divine Service:

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte, Oct. 22, 1899.

Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior, June 24, 1900.

St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place, June 24, 1900.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, Pembroke, June 24, 1900.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew, June 24, 1900.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, Plantagenet, July 1, 1900.

I also granted dispensation to Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior, to decorate the graves of deceased brethren.

The deaths of the following brethren have been reported to me during the year:

Bro. Welch, an honorary and charter member of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa.

Bro. C. A. Prigg, of Pembroke Lodge, No. 128.

Bro. J. E. Parker, Bro. William Irvine, Bro. Hugh Hinds, of The Builders' Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa.

Bro. T. J. Benbow, Bro. F. G. Balcombe, R. W. Bro. C. R. Church, M. D., P. D. D. G. M., of Fidelity, No. 231, Ottawa.

Mattawa Lodge, No. 405, Mattawa: I visited this Lodge officially on Dec. 5, 1899, and was welcomed in a very cordial manner by Wor. Bro. W. Hogarth and other officers. The Worshipful Master, R. Shanks, was absent through illness. There being no work, the acting W. M. and his officers opened and closed the Lodge in the three degrees very accurately. The attendance was fair. The books are well kept, and the outlook for this Lodge is very promising.

St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place: On Dec. 27, 1899, I had the pleasure of visiting this Lodge for the purpose of installing the officers. Wor. Bro. Thos. Fraser, the W. M., whom I installed, gave evidence of his ability to conduct the affairs of the Lodge in a very satisfactory manner.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa: I visited this Lodge officially on Dec. 22, 1899, and was kindly received by Wor. Bro. Gallagher, officers and members. The W. M., assisted by his officers, conferred the third degree in a very impressive manner. The officers are well up in their work, and the Lodge is to be congratu-

lated upon having a most efficient Secretary. His books are among the best I have seen.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, Ottawa: I visited this Lodge Jan. 2, 1900. I was unable to be with them at their afternoon session, but had the pleasure of witnessing the exemplification of the third degree at the evening meeting by W. Bro. Parrington, assisted by Wor. Bro. Reynolds and the officers of the Lodge. I was very much pleased with the manner in which the work was done. The officers are well up in their work, and everything was done with the greatest harmony.

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte: I had the pleasure of visiting this Lodge at their regular meeting in February, and was heartily received by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Dodds, officers and brethren of the Lodge. A second degree was conferred on two candidates. Every officer did his work well, and the Lodge is to be congratulated on its staff. The Secretary's books are well kept, and Wor. Bro. R. Pollock is a very efficient officer. The prospects of this Lodge are bright.

Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior: I paid this Lodge an official visit on Feb. 12, 1900, and was received in a most cordial manner by W. Bro. F. Montefort, officers and members. The Lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and a candidate was initiated, all being well done. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition financially and otherwise.

Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville: I visited this Lodge for the purpose of installing the officers on Jan. 8th, 1900. This Lodge has had a hard time of it until Wor. Bros. Dr. Sparling and H. J. Beatty were placed in charge. I believe they have a Worthy Brother at the head of affairs in the person of Wor. Bro. E. Woods, whom I installed. He will, I am sure, keep up the good work done by his two immediate predecessors.

Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark: March 6, 1900, the day of my official visit to this Lodge, the weather was very unfavorable, and the attendance, consequently, small. The W. M., C. Forbes, assisted by his officers, conferred the second degree on a candidate, the work being fairly well done.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, Pembroke: I visited this Lodge officially on April 6, 1900. The attendance was

good. The third degree was conferred on a candidate by the W. M., J. H. Reeves, in a very creditable manner, it being his first attempt. Secretary Bro. Alex. Morris has his books in good shape and is making a strong attempt to pull down the large arrearages.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew: This being my Mother Lodge, I have had many opportunities of seeing how the officers discharge their duties. I made my official visit on May 14, 1900. W. M. D. H. McArthur, ably assisted by his officers, exemplified the E. A. degree particularly well. It is most encouraging to see officers take such interest. The Lodge books are very well kept. On May 25th a pleasant "At-Home" was given in honor of Wor. Bro. James Craig, on the eve of his departure to the Yukon, to enter upon his duties as Associate Judge in the Yukon. A Past Master's Jewel and an address were presented to Wor. Bro. Craig as a slight token of the esteem in which he is held in the Lodge. As the fathers, mothers, wives and sisters of the members were invited to be present at this "At Home," the evening spent was a particularly pleasant one.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa: I visited this Lodge on the 16th of May and was cordially received by Wor. Bro. Davitt, officers and brethren. This was the night of their election of officers. S. W. Bro. A. L. Frood was elected W. M., and I am sure will prove a worthy successor to W. Bro. Davitt. From what I could learn, the other officers are well qualified to fill their respective positions. W. Bro. Davitt and officers exemplified the E. A. degree on two candidates in a very impressive manner. I cannot say how the Secretary's books are kept, as he declined to let me examine them, but I have been informed that he has since resigned his office.

Doric Lodge, No. 58, Ottawa: I visited this Lodge officially on May 4, 1900, a few days after the terrible fire which wrought such destruction in Ottawa and Hull. Many of the brethren in Ottawa lost heavily by it. The attendance on this occasion was not so large as usual. This Lodge has always been noted for the excellent work done by its officers, and Wor. Bro. J. L. Culbert is no exception, as I have had the pleasure of witnessing degree work done by him on other occa-

sions. The Lodge has a good staff of officers and an efficient Secretary, whose books are well kept. The prospects for this Lodge are bright.

Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, Ottawa: I visited this Lodge on the 24th of April, W. Bro. McQuaig, W. M., in the East. All the officers were present. The W. M., assisted by the officers, conferred the E. A. degree in a very creditable manner, the W. M. being well up in his work. The J. W., Bro. Anderson, gave the lecture on the tracing board and was worthy of honorable mention. The books of the Secretary were in good shape. The attendance was good.

Civil Service Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa: Was visited on May 8th. I. P. M. Wor. Bro. L. B. Scott in the East, the W. M., Wor. Bro. Rev. T. Garrett, being unavoidably absent. I was very much struck with the business-like manner in which the affairs of this Lodge were conducted, everything being done without a hitch. The candidate to receive the E. A. degree was not present, and Wor. Bro. Scott opened and closed in the three degrees, the officers doing their work in a creditable manner. The books of the Secretary and Treasurer were in good shape.

The Builders' Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa: Was visited on the 11th of May, W. M. Wor. Bro. Sykes in the East, and a large attendance of members. It was the night of their election of officers, and I was informed that the officers elected are all capable men, who will fill their positions worthily. The candidate for his degree was not present, consequently the W. M. and officers opened and closed the Lodge in the three degrees. The work was well done. The manner in which the Deacons did their work was worthy of honorable mention. The Builders' Lodge had a very pleasant reunion with the two Lodges from Ogdensburg on Nov. 22, 1899. During the evening the American brethren exemplified the third degree in an impressive manner. After the work of the Lodge was over an adjournment was made to the banqueting hall and an enjoyable time spent. I also had the pleasure of being present upon the occasion of the return visit of Builders' Lodge to the Ogdensburg Lodges, when our brethren exemplified the E. A. degree. one of our American brethren acting as candidate. The following brethren officiated:

R. W. Bro. W. Rea in the East, assisted by R. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell as I. P. M., and Wor. Bro. Hopper, S. W.; Wor. Bro. L. B. Scott, J. W.; Wor. Bro. John Wilson, Bro. J. H. Putnam, I. D.; R. W. Bro. Fred Cook, D. of C. The work was the finest I have ever had the pleasure of witnessing. A very enjoyable time was afterwards spent in the banquet hall, when eloquent speeches were delivered by distinguished members of the Craft from both sides of the line.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond: I visited this Lodge on the 6th June and found a good attendance of members, but a scarcity of officers, the Wor. M., I. P. M., S. W. and Secretary being the only officers in their places. This Lodge has not met very regularly during the year, probably owing to the fact that the W. M., Bro. Cryderman, lives about twelve miles away, and the Secretary, W. Bro. H. Reilly, resides in Ottawa. The W. M. conferred the second degree upon two candidates, the work being fairly well done. The S. W. was not up in his work and the J. W. was absent.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, Plantagenet: I visited this Lodge on 11th of June, W. M. Wor. Bro. Denning in the East. The W. M., assisted by W. Bro. Franklin, S. W., Wor. Bro. Dr. Switzer, J. W., conferred the E. A. degree upon a candidate, all doing their work very well. The Lodge room is not a very creditable building, but arrangements are about completed for another site, where a more suitable Lodge room will be built. Wor. Bro. W. Chamberlain is a model Secretary, prompt and neat.

St. John's Lodge, No. 21A, Vankleek Hill: I attended the regular meeting on June 12th. W. M. Wor. Bro. E. Carl Jones in the East; officers all present. The W. M. conferred the first degree and W. Bro. Morrison the third degree, all the work being well done. There was a large turnout of members, many of them driving ten miles to attend. The Secretary, Bro. J. Ferguson, is a very efficient officer. His books are neatly kept, and he attends to his duties with the utmost diligence. Masonry in this Lodge is in a healthy state.

In concluding my report I wish to thank the brethren throughout the Ottawa District for the honor which they conferred upon me in unanimously electing me to the high and honorable position of D. D. G. M.

Conscious as I am of my many shortcomings, while I have endeavored to discharge my duties faithfully, I realize that my work has been very imperfect, but to me at least the year has been one of profit and pleasure. Time would fail me to tell of all the royal receptions accorded me and of the many kindnesses extended to me, but I wish to assure my brethren that their many graceful courtesies and kindly services did not pass unnoticed, but will long be held in pleasant remembrance. I also take this opportunity of expressing my grateful appreciation of the assistance and support rendered me by my predecessor in office, R. W. Bro. G. S. May, of Ottawa.

Fraternally submitted,

W. A. MACKAY, D. D. G. M.,
Ottawa District, No. 16.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Ottawa District, No. 16, from June 24th; 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

[illegible]

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Masonry in District No. 17, and a record of my acts as your representative during the year just closed.

My first official act was the appointment of W. Bro. T. J. C. Rodden, a Past Master of Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, as District Secretary.

I visited each Lodge in the district at least once during the year, and have received the utmost courtesy and kindness. This New Ontario, however, is a country of such magnificent distances, and being upwards of twelve hundred miles from end to end, renders it a somewhat difficult task for the D. D. G. M. to make as frequent visits as he might wish.

At the request of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I had the honor of constituting and dedicating Granite Lodge, No. 446, Fort Frances, on Sept. 30, and Lake of the Woods, No. 445, Rat Portage, on Oct. 5, and in connection with these appointments it is only fair to state that in consequence of being stormbound at the entrance to Rainy River, and the steamer Keenora being aground at that historical point known as Hungry Hall for some 56 hours, the Fort Frances engagement was necessarily postponed. On reaching Ft. Frances at 3:30 p.m. on Sept. 30, I was met at the dock by Wor. Bro. C. J. Hollands, W. M., and on explaining the situation, the brethren made a grand effort and succeeded in getting a meeting the same evening. On account of the same transportation delays I could not reach Rat Portage again until Oct. 4, so the appointment with Lake of the Woods, No. 445, was likewise postponed. R. W. Bro. D. F. Ferguson, P. D. D. G.

M. (the Worshipful Master being absent from town), who was S. W., called a meeting for October 5th. I much regretted the inconvenience these two Lodges were put to by these unfortunate mishaps, but as they were occasioned by circumstances over which we mortals have no control, the brethren generously forgave me.

I commenced my Western trip by visiting Pequonga Lodge, No. 414, on September 26. Wor. Bro. Sherman, W. M., occupied the East, and on account of absence, the Wardens' chairs were filled by substitutes. There were about 35 present, and the second degree was satisfactorily conferred. There is much enthusiasm displayed by the brethren of this, the Senior Lodge of the West, and quite a healthy growth, while with such a list of distinguished Past Masters taking part, the outlook for Pequonga is all right. Wor. Bro. Sherman in the East is in his right place. The Secretary is painstaking and his books demonstrate the care and time devoted to his office. After the regular work of the evening some time was spent in exchanging ideas "for the good of Masonry," followed by work in the fourth degree in an adjoining room, to which the same attention was paid as to that in the former degrees. I was privileged in being able to again visit on October 4, when the first degree was conferred on a candidate.

On September 30 I met the brethren of Granite, No. 446, Fort Frances. On account of circumstances before described, this meeting was called at very short notice, and I was surprised to find 28 brethren to greet me at the Lodge room. The ceremony of constitution and dedication was performed in due form, and while for lack of time no degree work was performed, the Lodge was opened up in the three degrees, and I am satisfied Wor. Bro. C. J. Holland is quite capable of holding the position of Worshipful Master, while his officers give that loyal support so essential to the successful working of a Lodge. I installed the various officers, and after a very pleasant and instructive evening attended a banquet given in honor of the occasion. I can only say that Western hospitality was much in evidence. I think the future of this youngest born and farthest West of the Lodges in this jurisdiction is very bright.

On October 5 I attended the meeting at Lake of the Woods, No. 445, Rat Portage, where the ceremonies of constitution and dedication and of installation were performed in due form, R. W. Bro. D. F. Ferguson, P. D. D. G. M., who is S. W., V. W. W. Bro. D. H. Currie, Wor. Bros. Weir and J. K. Brydon taking part. On account of the delays before mentioned, a good representation was not out, some 15 being present. The W. M. was not in town, but as the West and East are occupied by old P. M.'s, we may be assured the affairs of Lake of the Woods, No. 445, are in good and capable hands, while the career of this addition to Masonic Lodges in Rat Portage will be followed with interest.

On Oct. 6 W. Bro. McCrossan, of Pequonga Lodge, kindly placed his steam yacht at our disposal, and a visit to Keewatin Lodge, No. 417, was made. A goodly representation of members was present, and a pleasant meeting resulted. Raising was the programme, and the sublime degree was conferred by Wor. Bro. T. J. Cherry, assisted by his officers, in an impressive manner. After a profitable half hour spent in conversation, adjournment was made to the refreshment hall, and good progress reported.

On October 24 I visited Dymont, No. 442, Thessalon, where I was welcomed by Wor. Bro. W. L. Nichols and his staff of officers. Quite a number of members were present, together with visitors from this and other jurisdictions. A candidate was initiated in good style, and the Lodge was opened and closed in all three degrees, demonstrating the abilities of the various officers in their work. At the close of the evening's work an elaborate supper was served in an adjoining hall, followed by song and speech. I left Dymont Lodge 'ing that it more than upholds the predictions of my predecessor.

On October 26 I arrived at Sault Ste. Marie and attended Keystone, No. 412. This Lodge has been somewhat handicapped this year, as the W. M. elected for 1899 did not, for private reasons, fulfil the duties of the office for the best part of the year. Keystone Lodge, however, has in its ranks a band of loyal Past Masters, who rallied to its aid, so that its interests did not materially suffer. Wor. Bro. R. Knight occupied the East, and with the other officers demonstrated that Keystone

Lodge is still to the fore. There was no degree work, and after the labors of the evening were ended we adjourned to the refreshment room, where a pleasant hour was spent. Keystone, No. 412, still holds its record as being a center of the stalwarts in Masonry, and as the prospects for place and people are exceedingly bright, so I trust will the Craft likewise prosper even more than heretofore. I must acknowledge the efforts of R. W. Bro. Farwell, M. P. P., P. D. D. G. M., and Wor. Bro. Knight for the comfort and pleasure of your representative.

I have had the privilege of visiting Fort William, No. 415, on several occasions during this past year, and have pleasure in testifying to the good work and successful record this Lodge has established. I assisted at the dual installation of the officers-elect of Shuniah and Fort William Lodges, have seen both first and second degrees conferred, and can say that in Wor. Bro. C. H. Jackson, who has been re-elected for a second term, together with his Wardens and Secretary, this Lodge has careful and painstaking officials, while the success attending their efforts render the outlook for No. 415 exceedingly encouraging.

In visiting Shuniah, No. 287, Port Arthur, I have taken advantage of circumstances, and attended my Mother Lodge both during Wor. Bro. W. J. Clark's and Wor. Bro. John Ritchie's term of office. I have seen the three degrees exemplified and can testify to the good work done and to the material Shuniah, 287, is introducing into the Masonic fold. I regret, however, not to see a larger attendance at meetings, both on the part of assistant officers as well as private members. This makes the Worshipful Master's duties so much harder, in addition to the taking away of much of the impressiveness of the various ceremonies. Wor. Bro. Morgan fills the Secretary's chair in a most careful and painstaking manner.

The By-laws for Granite, No. 446, Fort Frances, have been confirmed, also an amendment for Fort William, No. 415.

I have issued seven dispensations for purposes of attending Divine Service, Funerals, etc., and the fees therefrom have been forwarded to the Grand Secretary. In closing I wish to thank the brethren of the district

for kindnesses received during my year of office. I have humbly endeavored to further the intrests of the Craft and the wishes of the M. W. the G. M., but knowing how imperfectly many of the duties have been performed ask for the exercise on my behalf of that greatest of Masonic virtues.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM SIDNEY BEAVER, D. D. G.M.,

Algoma District, No. 17.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Algoma District, No 17, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	Degree's confd		M. M.	Affiliations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Deceased.	Meet-ings held.		Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 18 months in arrears.	Total or all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.	
					E. A.	F. C.						Regular.	Emergency.										Total.
Shuniah	Port Arthur.....	100	5	1	5	6	1	2	3	3	6	..	..	13	\$45 00	35	\$ 301 00	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Good.	Yes	\$ 3,000
Keystone	Sault Ste. Marie	82	11	..	5	6	0	1	9	3	14	17	13 00	9	66 00	Jun. 26 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	500
Pequonga	Rat Portage.....	99	11	..	13	11	10	3	..	3	18	25	..	35	20 00	Jun. 25 1899	Good.	Good.	Yes	500
Fort Wm.	Fort William.....	71	10	..	12	11	9	3	..	5	..	..	..	19	75 00	19	554 85	Jun. 23 1900	Fair.	Good.	Yes	400
Keewatin	Keewatin	49	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	90 00	19	31 00	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Good.	Yes	500
Dymont	Thessalon	41	4	..	4	6	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	5	40 00	May 25 1900	Good.	Good.	Yes	300
Lake of Wds	Rat Portage .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Granite	Fort Frances.....	41	15	..	11	10	9	7	..	3	..	..	..	14	..	..	\$3 10	Dec. 27 1899	Good.	Good.	Yes	300

NIPISSING DISTRICT, NO. 18.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit to you this annual report on the condition of Masonry in Nipissing District, No. 18.

When I was honored with the office of District Deputy I accepted it with much diffidence, foreboding all kinds of trouble and snares, but it was not long before all these forebodings began to vanish, for the great kindness and generosity I have met with at the hands of the brethren of Nipissing District is something I cannot quickly forget, for one would almost be led to think that there was a rivalry among the Lodges to see which could outdo the rest in hospitality.

I have visited all the Lodges in the district once, some of them more than once, and I have to say, Most Worshipful Sir, that Masonry throughout this district is in a most prosperous condition. Many of the Lodges I have visited have members living distances of from 25 to 35 miles from their Lodges, and they are found regularly at their posts at great sacrifices to themselves of time and money. Many of these I have made it a point to hold conversations with, and one cannot but be surprised at the true spirit of Masonry that seems to pervade them.

I have performed all the duties of my office faithfully and to the best of my ability, and I take this opportunity of thanking the brethren of the district for the many kindnesses shown me. Wherever I have visited I have impressed upon the brethren the principles as laid down in the M. W. the Grand Master's address, last July. I have corrected all errors, made suggestions when I thought them necessary, and strengthened weak Lodges and made their meetings attractive, so as to bring out a good attendance.

As a means of improving the interest and attendance, I have suggested that all Past Masters and every person else who knew thier work be given some little part to perform in conferring degrees, that sidesmen be encouraged to take part in motions, discussions, etc., and that social chat and refreshments (solid) be indulged in frequently.

On the 9th of February, 1900, at the request of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I performed the pleasing duty of constituting a new Lodge at Sturgeon Falls, with a membership of about 17, many of whom are old Masons. They are very enthusiastic in their work and have it well up, and I feel quite safe in predicting for them a prosperous future. I was ably assisted in the ceremony by twelve visiting brethren, six of whom came from Sudbury Lodge—a distance of 55 miles—three from Nipissing Lodge at North Bay, and the remainder from Madawaska, Mississippi and Moravian Lodges respectively.

Nipissing Lodge, No. 420, North Bay: My first official visit was paid to this Lodge on Nov. 9th, where I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. George Tait, of Toronto, from whom I received much valued information, which has been of great benefit to me. The Wor. Master worked the first and second degrees in a very satisfactory manner, and R. W. Bro. Tait worked the third in a manner beautiful to listen to.

Powassen Lodge, No. 443, Powassen: I visited this Lodge on the following evening, Nov. 10th, and although no degrees were worked I had them open and close in the three degrees, and they did the fourth degree in a most enthusiastic and hospitable manner. They are a jolly lot of fellows and are prospering.

Algonquin Lodge, No. 434, Emsdale: I took this Lodge by surprise on Nov. 22nd and saw them open and close in the three degrees with military precision, and exemplify the third about as near perfection as possible. This is one of the best conducted Lodges in the district. I visited them again on April 17th, when 24 members were present, and saw the third degree worked, this time with about as much exactness as it was exemplified on the first visit.

Granite Lodge, No. 352, Parry Sound: So far as my experience has gone this Lodge may claim to be work-

ing slightly nearer perfection than any Lodge in the district. On February 14th, accompanied by eight of the members from Algonquin Lodge, I visited Granite Lodge and heard W. Bro. Pirie work the third degree in his beautiful oratorical style that was really a treat. This is a very prosperous Lodge; they own the building in which the lodge room is situated and are on good financial basis, according to the financial report read on the evening I was present.

Nickel Lodge, No. 427, Sudbury: I visited this Lodge on Dec. 6, and shall not quickly forget the most cordial reception and entertainment accorded me. I was accompanied on this visit by W. Bro. A. J. Young, of Cache Bay, I. P. M. of Nipissing Lodge, whose kindness and company I much appreciated. The Worshipful Master was unavoidably absent and the chair was occupied by Wor. Bro. C. R. Reid, who conducted the election of officers and worked the third degree in a highly creditable manner. In the matter of charity this has been the Banner Lodge of the district during the past year. They are on a good financial basis and can scarcely be spoken of too highly.

Strong Lodge, No. 423, Sundridge: I visited this Lodge on February 21st, accompanied by Wor. Bro. Barker, of Emsdale, I. P. M. of Algonquin Lodge, whose kind offices during the year I have much appreciated. The W. M., Bro. A. J. Whitby, is a good officer, but he is badly assisted by the other officers of the Lodge. Two initiations were very creditably performed, so far as the W. M. was concerned, during the evening I was present.

Muskoka Lodge, No. 360, Bracebridge: I visited this Lodge on March 13th, and was rather surprised at the delicate health in which I found it, re work. They claim but one initiation in four years, but I have reason to believe that my visit has proved beneficial, for, by their notices of meeting, I see they have one initiation and another application since my visit.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 409, Gravenhurst: I visited this Lodge on April 9th. The attendance was not very large, but they seem pretty well officered this year and worked the second degree well. From former reports this Lodge seems to have been somewhat on the decline for the past few years, but I think it is now coming to

the front again. They are very hospitable and kind, and seem to possess much of the true spirit of Masonry.

Unity Lodge, No. 376, Huntsville: As this is my Mother Lodge, and the one of which I am now a member, I am not in a position to say much about her merits, but suffice it to say she is in a very healthy condition, is growing rapidly, and does her work well. We held a Past Master's meeting on the second Wednesday in May, which was in every way a success and stirred into new life some of the old Past Masters.

Sturgeon Falls Lodge, Sturgeon Falls: As before stated, this Lodge was constituted on April 9th, 1900, and as they are anxious to obtain a charter at the next Communication of Grand Lodge, held at London, I delegated W. Bro. Bruce, of Unity Lodge, to pay them a visit and report to me, which he does as follows: I visited Sturgeon Falls Lodge and saw it opened in the first and second degrees. One candidate was initiated and another passed, and I have much pleasure in reporting that the work was done in a workmanlike manner. I inspected the Lodge room, which was not quite finished, but when completed it will be a good room. The brethren assured me that it would be finished in about a week. The room is 21x36, high ceiling, with two ante-rooms 9x10 and 8x9, and a refreshment room 10x36. They have already initiated a number of candidates and many others are waiting to come in. They seem cautious in regard to material, and so far have good men in the Lodge. The Treasurer's books show a balance in favor of the Lodge. It is my opinion that they have the material from which a good Lodge can be formed, and I will be pleased to hear that they get a charter.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. N. SHEARER, D. D. G. M.,

Nipissing District, No. 18.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table showing the work done in Nipissing District, No. 18, from June 24th, 1899, to June 24th, 1900.

Number of Lodge.	NA MR OF Lodge.	LOCATION.	Mem-ber-ship	Degree's conf'd	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance of members.		Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
																		Meet-ings held.	Meet-ings held.								
427	Nickel	Sudbury	101	10	2	10	2	10	7	10	1	1	9	1	13	4	17	17	216	30	95	Dec. 27 1899	Excellent	Excellent	Yes	\$600
443	Powassan	Powassan	96	4	0	3	9	4	1	1	1	1	9	1	13	1	14	15	21	10	.....	Jun. 11 1900	Good	Good	Yes	200
434	Algonquin	Ensdale	40	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	11	19	36	10	.....	Dec. 27 1899	Good	Good	Yes	200
359	Gratie	Parry Sound	64	6	0	5	5	5	1	1	2	2	11	4	15	25	60	0	1	13 50	Dec. 31 '99	Excellent	Excellent	Yes	500		
376	Unity	Huntsville	75	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	13	1	14	15	20	0	.....	Dec. 27 '99	Good	Good	Yes	300		
409	Golden Rule	Gravenhurst	41	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	13	1	13	13	16	20	0	.....	Dec. 27 '99	Fair	Good	Yes	300	
360	Sturg Falls	Sturgeon Falls	55	8	1	0	8	1	1	1	1	1	5	0	6	7	11	.....	.....	11	150 25	.....	Good	Excellent	Yes	300
430	Muskego	Bracebridge	39	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	9	9	11	.....	.....	6	34 55	Jun. 28 1900	Good	Fair	Yes	600
420	Nipissing	North Bay	77	8	18	8	6	8	9	9	1	1	13	0	13	13	13	23	83	17	301 76	April 6 1900	Good	Good	Yes	300	
423	Strong	Sundridge	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	0	13	13	83	17	301 76	April 6 1900	Fair	Fair	Yes	300	

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board, through the Committee on Printing and Supplies, beg leave to report:

1st.—That they have examined the following duly certified accounts, and recommend the same to the Audit and Finance Committee for payment:

McPherson & Drope, Hamilton, printing.....	369 50
The Spectator Printing Co., Hamilton, printing.....	293 01
J. Eastwood & Co., Hamilton, stationery.....	70 71
The Copp, Clark Co., Toronto, certificates.....	456 15

2nd.—The Alexander Cable Company, of Toronto, whose tender for lithographic work required by Grand Lodge was accepted last year, having failed to obtain parchments of the necessary size and quality, according to the stipulations of their tender, the usual supply for the year was secured from the Copp, Clark Co., the former contractors.

3rd.—The Board will endeavor to place the different reports of Grand Lodge (those deemed prudent to print at this time) in the hands of the brethren as soon as possible after their submission to Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

J. S. DEWAR,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Printing and Supplies.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Printing and Supplies be received and subsequently adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON WARRANTS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board, through the Committee on Warrants, beg to recommend that a warrant be issued to Sturgeon Falls Lodge, Sturgeon

Falls in Nipissing District No. 18, the requirements of the constitution having been fully complied with.

Fraternally submitted,

L. SECORD,

Chairman Sub. Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board, through the Committee on Audit and Finance, have audited the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and certify to their correctness.

All monies received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer and their receipt acknowledged by that officer; vouchers have been produced for all payments made by the Grand Treasurer as authorized by Grand Lodge.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives a full statement of the receipts from all sources, as well as other business transacted in the office.

The total Receipts have been.....	\$22,413 77
The total Expenditures have been.....	22,229 11
Receipts over Expenditure.....	184 66

The Receipts last year were \$21,040.92, making an increase for this year of \$1,372.85.

The Expenditures last year were \$18,793.32, making an increase for this year of \$3,435.79, which is largely accounted for by the subscription of \$1,000 to the Patriotic Fund, and \$2,000 to the Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief Fund.

The following Debentures having matured, have been paid or renewed:

The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co.....	\$ 10,000 00
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co.....	5,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co.....	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan & Debenture Co.....	5,000 00
The British Canadian Loan & Investment Co.....	15,000 00
The Huron & Erie Loan Co.....	15,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 55,000 00

And were renewed or reinvested as follows after careful investigation:

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, LONDON, 5900. 315

The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co.....	\$ 10,000 00
The Canadian Savings & Loan Co.....	5,000 00
The Landed Banking & Loan Co.....	5,000 00
The Ontario Loan & Debenture Co.....	5,000 00
The Canada Central Loan & Savings Co.....	15,000 00
The Hamilton Provident & Loan Co.....	15,000 00

\$ 55,000 00

The funds of Grand Lodge on May 31st, 1900, were as follows :

Brockville Debentures (face value), at 4%.....	\$ 3,000 00
Woodstock Debentures (face value), at 6 %.....	7,000 00
Canada Central Loan & Savings Co. Debentures, at 4%	15,000 00
Western Canada Loan & Savings Co. Debentures, at 4%	10,000 00
Landed Banking & Loan Co. Debentures, at 4 1/2 %...	10,000 00
Landed Banking & Loan Co. Debentures, at 4 %....	5,000 00
Canada Savings & Loan Co. Debentures, at 4 %.....	5,000 00
Ontario Loan & Debenture Co. Debentures, at 4 %..	5,000 00
Hamilton Provident & Loan Co. Debentures, at 4 %..	15,000 00
Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co. Debentures, at 4 %.....	10,000 00

\$ 85,000 00

Balance at credit of current account in Canadian Bank of Commerce on May 31st, 1900.....	11,486 88
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Total.....\$ 96,486 88

Making investments as follows :

Toronto.....	\$ 35,000 00
Hamilton.....	30,000 00
London.....	10,000 00
Woodstock.....	7,000 00
Brockville.....	3,000 00

\$ 85,000 00

Which amounts represent the balance at the credit of the following accounts :

General Fund.....	\$ 80,405 13
Asylum Fund.....	16,081 75

\$ 96,486 88

The Board are of opinion that unless Grand Lodge at its next session otherwise orders, the Asylum Fund should be merged into the General Fund.

The Board recommend the payment of the following amounts :

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.	\$ 100 00
Grand Secretary, Balance of Incidentals to May 31, 1900	221 19
Grand Secretary, Advance for Incidentals.....	500 00
Grants to Benevolence.....	10,600 00
General Masonic Relief Association, annual fee.....	125 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond.....	50 00

\$ 11,596 19

The Committee on Printing and Supplies report that the following accounts are correct and the Board recommend their payment :

McPherson & Drope, balance.....	\$ 369 50
The Copp, Clark Co., certificates.....	456 15
J. Eastwood & Co., stationery.....	70 71
Spectator Printing Co., balance.....	393 01

\$ 1,189 37

An application has been received from R. W. Bro. John M. Shaw on behalf of The Spry Lodge, No. 406, Fenton Falls, for the remission of a fee of \$20 paid by them for a dispensation *re* passing Bro. Wright. The Board recommend that the application be granted.

An application has also been received from W. Bro. Harcourt, W. M. of Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto, for the remission of a fee of \$20 paid by them for a dispensation *re* raising Bro. Barker. The Board recommend that this application be granted.

The Board in recommending that these remissions be granted do so without wishing in any way to establish a precedent as to the remission of fees, but in both these cases the circumstances are very exceptional.

Fraternally submitted,

A. R. HARGRAFT,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Audit and Finance.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board, through the Committee on Benevolence, beg to report that they have received 281 applications, which they have dealt with as follows:

145 Applications from Private Lodges, of which 142 have been granted for	\$ 6,290 00
(3 having been rejected.)	
136 Applications from Local Boards, of which 131 have been granted for	4,655 00
(5 having been rejected.)	
	\$10,945 00
Special grants by Grand Lodge:	
Mrs. Wilson	\$ 150 00
Miss Mary Wilson	300 00

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Miss M. H. Harris	75 00
Miss Harington	150 00
<hr/>	
Total amount of grants made at this Annual Commu- cation.....	\$11,620 00
Maximum grants have been made to 29 brethren and 5 widows.	
Interim grants were made during the year of 1899-1900 amounting to	\$ 545 00
Total amount of grants made at Annual Communica- tion in 1899.....	10,115 00
<hr/>	
Increase.....	\$ 960 00

During the year 1899-1900 the amount contributed for benevo-
lence was as follows:

Payments on Benevolent Orders	\$10,150 00
Grant to Hull and Ottawa Fire Fund.....	2,000 00
Grant to National Patriotic Fund for South African Contingents.....	1,000 00
Grants made by 61 lodges making returns to Grand Lodge.....	2,663 68
Grants made by Local Boards of Relief.....	2,544 93
<hr/>	
Total	\$18,358 61

Returns have been received from all the lodges who have re-
ceived supplementary aid, except lodges No. 17, 77, 141, 269, 336,
386 and 432.

The Board are happy to note the improvement in the number
of lodges making returns, but recommend that no check for this
year's grants be forwarded to the above lodges until satisfactory
returns are received by the Grand Secretary.

Returns have been received from all the Local Boards of Re-
lief.

Nine lodges, making returns, and one Local Board of Relief
have contributed nothing to objects of benevolence.

The Board recommend that no payments be made on account
of grants to new applicants or to those in which investigation is
specially directed by the Committee, until investigation by the
Inspector.

The Board recommended that the Inspector be paid for his at-
tendance on the Committee the sum of \$15.00 and his expenses.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN E. HARDING,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Benevolence.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, se-
conded by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board of Benevolence be re-
ceived and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON GRIEVANCES
AND APPEALS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board beg to report as follows upon the cases of Grievances and Appeals laid before them:

1. *Re Wm. McAllister vs. W. Bro. Richard Waters, Belleville Lodge 123, G. R. C.*, improper revelations. The charge was laid in and tried by Belleville Lodge, No. 123, in the course of which voluminous evidence taken before a Committee of Warren Lodge, Chicago, appointed by said Belleville Lodge, was used. The accused was present in Chicago at the investigation and cross-examined the witnesses, but your Board do not consider the evidence given at Chicago warranted a conviction.

At the trial at Belleville, however, certain statutory declarations of persons in Chicago were presented and read to the lodge, and formed, to a large extent, the material upon which the members present upon the said trial based their opinion, and by means of which the said lodge found the W. Bro. guilty of the said offence and suspended him indefinitely. W. Bro. Waters had no opportunity either personally or by counsel to cross-examine these witnesses, and thereupon appealed to the D. D. G. M. of Prince Edward District, No. 13, on the ground of irregularities in the trial, who dismissed the appeal. The W. Bro. then appealed to the M. W. the Grand Master, who remitted the matter to your Board. Belleville Lodge and the Appellant were represented before your Board, the lodge by the Secretary, the appellant by Bro. Morden, of Belleville, and after hearing the parties and reading the evidence and papers in the matter, your Board recommend that the appeal of W. Bro. Waters be allowed and a new trial granted upon the conditions (a) that the charge originally laid stand as good and (b) that the evidence taken in Chicago also stand, saving all just exceptions thereto, as evidence to which conditions the counsel for the appellant, being present, consents, and in the meantime that the suspension of W. Bro. Waters be removed.

2. Frederick Lodge, 217, Delhi, vs. Bro. W. H. Wilbur, threatening to keep an applicant for initiation out of the lodge for specified reasons. Bro. Wilbur was tried by his lodge, found guilty, and indefinitely suspended. From this decision the Bro. has appealed. The Board recommend that the matter be referred back for a new trial and decision thereon, and that in the meantime the suspension be removed.

3. Frederick Lodge, 217 vs. W. Bro. Chas. G. Wood. (1) Telling one S—— that Bro. Wilbur, a member of the lodge, would likely keep one T. M——, an applicant for initiation, out of the lodge. (2) Influencing said S—— to keep away from a committee meeting on the investigation of the charge against Bro. Wilbur. W. Bro. Wood was tried by his lodge, found guilty and suspended indefinitely, from which he appealed.

Your Board are of the opinion that the first charge is not a Masonic offence, and even if it were it is not proved against the accused. As to the second charge, if it be a Masonic offence, your Board consider it has not been proved against the accused and is denied by him. The Board therefore recommend that W. Bro. Wood's appeal be allowed and his suspension removed.

4. Marmora Lodge, 222 vs. Bro. Donald Clarke, larceny and conviction by court of competent jurisdiction. (See G. L. proceedings, 1899, page 307.) At the G. L. meeting at Ottawa in 1899, where Bro. Clarke was summoned, he showed cause, and your Board recommended the appointment of a Commission by the Grand Master to investigate the whole matter and report to the Grand Master. The Commission has so reported, and the Grand Master has handed the report to your Board and it is hereto annexed. Pending said investigation, the summons to Bro. Clarke was enlarged till this meeting of Grand Lodge, and he was in addition served with notice to appear here to show cause why he should not be expelled. Bro. Clarke has made default, and your Board therefore recommend that Bro. Clarke be expelled from the Craft.

MARMORA LODGE 222 VS. BRO. DONALD CLARKE.

To the Most Worshipful Brother E. T. Malone, Grand Master of the Lodge of Canada :

The undersigned Commissioners (R. W. Bro. Lazier being absent) appointed by you by the authority of Grand Lodge, given at its meeting held at Ottawa in July last, to investigate into the truth of the facts alleged by Bro. Donald Clarke upon his showing cause, at said meeting of Grand Lodge, why he the said Bro. Clarke should not be expelled from the Craft for an offence proved before Marmora Lodge No. 222 G. R. C., of which he was a member, and for which he was suspended by said lodge and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion, beg to report as follows :

1. The offence charged was that Bro. Clarke had been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction for misappropriation of his employer's moneys, and upon pleading guilty, was sentenced to imprisonment in the Central Prison for the term of eleven months.

2. Bro. Clarke's defence before said meeting of Grand Lodge upon his showing cause, was in writing, and was confined entirely to the transaction, briefly stated as follows : About September, 1894, Bro. A. W. Carscallen, of Marmora, entered into an agreement with Bro. Carke, then a clerk in his Banking House, to purchase certain lands (about 2,700 acres) from the E. O. Bickford estate of Toronto; Bro. Carscallen to give Bro. Clarke \$500.00 if successful; that Bro. Clarke made an offer to the Bickford estate which was referred to Carscallen (their land agent at Marmora), and upon his report the lands were sold to Bro. Clarke, Carscallen furnishing the money to pay for same; that the next day, or a few days after, Clarke conveyed the said lands to Carscallen, and charged Carscallen with the \$500.00 promised as aforesaid; that Carscallen in 1896, during the heat of a political contest, laid a criminal charge against him, and upon

the solicitation of his (Clarke's) friends and a promise of a light sentence, he was induced to plead guilty; that upon consulting a legal firm whilst in Central Prison, the Bickford estate procured a reconveyance of all the lands from Carscallen for a nominal consideration and Mr. Carscallen had to pay them \$1,500.00 or thereabouts.

3. Your Commissioners proceeded to Marmora, where they held an investigation, a special meeting of Marmora Lodge having been called for the purpose, and Bros. Carscallen and Clarke both being present. Your Commissioners had before them certified copies of the evidence taken upon the prosecution, and a statement taken from Carscallen's books by Messrs. Clarkson & Cross, accountants, of Toronto, used on the said trial. We annex a copy of said statement hereto and which we refer to hereafter, and your Commissioners had access to and examined the books of Bro. Carscallen for the years from 1891 to 1896, both inclusive, and we find as follows:

(a) The deed from the Bickford estate to Clarke is dated in April, 1891 (not September, 1894), and for the consideration of \$500.00 conveys to Clarke about 2,700 acres of lands in Counties of Hastings and Peterborough.

(b) The deed from Clarke to Carscallen of the same lands is dated December, 1891, for the expressed consideration of \$600.00, none of which was paid to Clarke.

(c) Carscallen's books show that in April, 1891, he paid \$500.00 for the said lands, said amount being charged in his books to the account headed "Methuen Lands."

(d) There is no entry in any of Carscallen's books charging Carscallen with \$500.00, which Clarke says in his defence was to be his recompense for said purchase, and which he says was charged by him to Carscallen, nor is any sum charged, nor is Bro. Clarke credited in said books with the said sum of \$500.00.

(e) We find that Bro. Clarke was not prosecuted by Bro. Carscallen for misappropriation of any moneys touching the Bickford estate matter, as the members of Grand Lodge naturally inferred was the case, from Bro. Clarke's defence, but the prosecution was for a series of defalcations or embezzlements running from February, 1894, to September, 1896, in various sums, aggregating \$1,527.72, particularly shown on the annexed papers, being the papers referred to in clause 3 of this report.

(f) Your Commissioners examined Bro. Clarke privately upon the said statement made by Clarkson & Co., which in short shows entries of withdrawals by certain customers of Bro. Carscallen, who had moneys with him on deposit. Bro. Clarke admitted to your Commissioners that none of the parties had withdrawn the moneys as shown by the books, that the entries of them made by Clarke in Carscallen's books were false and untrue, but his explanation was that Carscallen owed him money to the extent of the aggregate of the false entries, and this was his (Clarke's) means of getting even with Carscallen.

(g) We also find that Bro. Clarke was defended by counsel on said criminal prosecution, and who advised him to plead guilty.

(h) We find as a fact that the defence put in to Grand Lodge by

Bro. Clarke is not true, but on the contrary has been abundantly disproved.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

Jas. H. BURRITT,
Chairman.

DONALD CLARK DEFALCATIONS.

Donald Clark was employed by Mr. Carscallen from 1889 to 1st October, 1894, as cashier and bookkeeper at his Marmora office. The business carried on was that of a private bank, insurance and mining agency. The defalcations discovered are all in connection with the banking department.

Clark received moneys upon deposit, and issued either deposit receipts therefor or entered the deposits in a pass book ; paid out moneys to depositors, and kept a book account thereof. The plan of account is of the simplest kind, consisting of a journal and ledger. The ledger was balanced from month to month, and the postings thereto are from the journal exclusively. A cash book was also kept and balanced from day to day, but as all the entries therein were transcribed into the journal, from which alone the postings were made, the cash book becomes a subsidiary book in the plan of account adopted.

The attached statement shows \$1,527.72 as the total of the defalcations in eight months. The dates and amounts are those made from the entries of said Clark in the books kept by him,

The cash may have been obtained by Clark at earlier dates in most of the instances, and many of the amounts may possibly be the totals of various withdrawals which were got rid of in the manner described.

The plan of account obliged Clark to balance his books, the cash book daily and the ledger monthly, hence cash received or paid, if immediately entered, must at once be accounted for or the cash book would not balance. If transactions were not entered in the cash book the ledger must show wrong balances. The latter proves to be the case. The ledger account "deposit receipts" shows a balance of \$1,450, less than the amount of the outstanding deposit receipts, and the remaining \$77.72 has been improperly charged to interest account.

The personal accounts in several instances have been falsified in various ways, but the final balance appearing has in every instance been brought into accord with the true state of the case, and the two above named impersonal accounts are the only ones finally wrong.

(Sgd.) CLARKSON & CROSS.

1893.

Feb. 24. Cash withdrawn \$350 00
Charged as against deposit receipt No. 136
issued to one James Bailey for \$400, which,
was otherwise paid in full.

1894.

May 31. Cash withdrawn \$230 72
Charged as against deposit receipt No. 59,
issued to said James Bailey for \$800, which
receipt had been paid on 7th Feb., 1891.

1894.	April 19.	Cash withdrawn.....	\$162 00
		Charged as against deposit receipt, No. 71, issued to James C. Bailey for \$150, which receipt had been paid on 9th March, 1892.	
1894.	July 6.	Cash withdrawn.....	\$ 80 00
		Charge in Cash Book at folio 279, and in Journal at folio 418 as paid to James Bailey, said amount not having been due to James Bailey and not having been paid to him.	
1894.	Jan. 4.	Cash withdrawn.....	\$120 00
		Amount received from one G. B. Bleeker on deposit not accounted for as cash received, but irregularly carried to the Ledger account of G. B. Bleeker on 30th April, 1894.	
1894.	April 20.	Cash withdrawn.....	\$ 57 00
		Amount received from one Wm. Stanley on deposit not accounted for as cash.	
		Cash withdrawn.....	\$128 00
		as follows:	
		28th April, 1894.....	\$28 00
		8th May, 1894.....	90 00
		9th May, 1884.....	9 75
		These payments were properly made to one G. McWilliams, the deposit which the Ledger shows not having been accounted for as cash, but arises as a result of transfer entries from the accounts of the aforesaid Wm. Stanley and James Bailey.	
1894.	Sept. 14.	Cash withdrawn.....	\$400 00
		Charged to The Pearce Co. as a cheque in favor of H. Junkin for \$400, no such cheque appears to have been issued, and the two amounts making the credit in The Pearce Co. account, as well as the said withdrawal, do not appear in the Pass Book of The Pearce Co. That is, the whole transaction is bogus.	

\$1,527 72

5. Wilson Lodge, 86, Toronto vs. R. W. Bro. T. Sargent, lascivious conduct, etc. See G. L. proceedings, 1899 page 309. Bro. Sargent was summoned to show cause at this meeting of Grand Lodge why he should not be expelled from the Craft for said offences. Bro. Sargent has appeared before your Board.

Your Board recommend that R. W. Bro. Sargant be expelled from the Craft for the said offences.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JAS. H. BURRITT,

Chairman.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. James H. Burritt, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Board have received and carefully read the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as the tabulated statements of the nineteen districts, and are pleased to report that of the 361 lodges in the Province, 354 have been officially visited during the year, and that many of them have been visited two or three times. Only seven have not been visited, viz. :

Thistle Lodge, No. 34	Amherstburg
Northern Light, " 266.....	Stayner
Minerva " 304	Stroud
Ionic " 328.....	Napier
Florence " 390.....	Florence
Parvaim " 395.....	Comber
Naphtali " 413.....	Tilbury Centre

Five lodges not visited last year have been inspected by the respective District Deputy Grand Masters, and have been severally reported as in good condition. This is the more gratifying, because two of them have been working under dispensation, and were only granted warrants at the last session of Grand Lodge.

The Board, while urging upon D. D. G. Masters the necessity of visiting each lodge in their districts at least once in every year, request that special attention be given to the seven lodges named.

The Board are pleased to be able to report that the D. D. G. Masters have faithfully and efficiently discharged the duties of their onerous and responsible office, that their visits have been looked forward to with pleasant anticipation, and that, in most instances, their travelling expenses have been cheerfully paid. It is to be regretted, however, that there are still a few lodges who disregard the oft expressed wish of Grand Lodge, and the Board trust that it will not again be necessary to direct the attention of lodges to their plain duty in this matter. The office of D. D. G.

Master entails upon the brother selected to fill it much loss of time, and subjects him to many discomforts, and the lodges should see that he should not also be required to incur personal expense.

In almost every instance the Deputies report a most prosperous year, a year remarkable not only for the success which has attended the lodges financially and numerically, but also for the harmony which prevails among the lodges and brethren. Not one case of unmasonic conduct has been reported to them ; not a ripple has disturbed the peace which prevails throughout the jurisdiction. This is reiterated again and again ; and the Board are informed that the few cases of grievance which are before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals are undecided cases of former years.

Effort has been made in the several districts, with some good results, to induce worthy Masons who for various reasons have resigned their membership to again affiliate, and thus bring themselves in Masonic touch with their brethren.

With few exceptions the Worshipful Masters are reported to be well able to conduct the ritualistic work of the lodge nearly all can work the three degrees as prescribed, and open and close correctly in each. The work as performed is becoming more uniform every year. This is accounted for by reason of the special attention given to ritualistic details by the D. D. G. Masters, who have been most indefatigable and painstaking in this connection, by information gathered at Lodges of Instruction, and during fraternal visits to sister lodges.

Lodges of Instruction have been held in only three districts, viz. : St. Clair, No. 2 ; Ontario, No. 12, and Frontenac, No. 14.

The first of these was held on the 1st February at Oil Springs. The three degrees were severally exemplified by W. Bro. Hart, of Burns Lodge, assisted by the officers of Washington Lodge, No. 260 ; by W. Bro. Belasco, W. Master of Washington Lodge, and by W. Bro. Parks and the officers of Alexandra Lodge, No. 158.

The second Lodge of Instruction was held on the 16th April, at Lindsay. The Entered Apprentice Degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Collinson and officers of Ontario Lodge, No. 26. The Fellowcraft Degree by W. Bro. Linton and officers of Orono Lodge, No. 325. And the Master Mason's Degree by W. Bro. Brandon and officers of Arcadia Lodge, No. 440. R. W. Bro. Harding was present and contributed largely to its success.

The third Lodge of Instruction was held on the 31st May, at Kingston. Officers of every lodge in the district took part in the exemplification of the degrees. The stated object of this Lodge of Instruction was to have uniformity of work, to cultivate a better acquaintance, and to discuss matters pertaining to the welfare of the Craft. At this meeting the lodge was honored by the presence of the M. W. the Grand Master.

The reason that a greater number of lodges of instruction have not been held is that several of the D. D. G. Masters are of opinion that greater good is accomplished by the custom, which is becoming quite common, of the officers of one lodge being invited to visit another lodge, and to confer the degrees.

They say, and say truly, that in such a case the officers prepare and practice, as they would not otherwise do, in order to maintain the honor and reputation of their mother lodge. While recognizing the great advantage of these fraternal exchanges of visits, the Board adhere to their often expressed opinion that it is advisable to hold at least one general Lodge of Instruction in some central place in each district every year.

The secretaries of lodges have received a larger measure of praise this year than usual for their very efficient work. The financial success of the lodge, and the punctual and regular attendance of the members is due in many instances to the faithful performance of the secretary's duties. Many lodges secure as their secretaries brethren who have passed the Chair, and when this can be done and the brother is imbued with a love for his lodge good results invariably follow. Many of the secretaries are reported as having filled the office for a long time. One, the secretary of Colborne Lodge, No. 91—Geo. Keyes—Colborne, the D. D. G. M. reports, filled the office to the entire satisfaction of the brethren for thirty years, and has not been absent one meeting. Some secretaries, however, have failed to furnish the statistics ordered by Grand Lodge, and which are required by the D. D. G. Master to enable him to prepare his statistical report.

Attention is again drawn to the fact that the furniture and paraphernalia of quite a large number of lodges are not insured against loss by fire, and the Board recommend that D. D. G. Masters make a special appeal to lodges to insure during the year.

Arrearages of dues by members to their lodges are still reported as being much too common. While Grand Lodge has no desire unduly to interfere with lodges in managing their finances, it has always claimed the privilege of warning them against evils which experience has proven to be detrimental to the success of lodges, principal among these are

1st—Neglect of Secretaries to collect dues.

2nd—Tardiness in opening the lodge and getting to work.

3rd—Keeping the meetings open to too late an hour.

Large amounts have been contributed by lodges for transient relief, grants to widows and orphans, benevolent institutions, relief of famine sufferers in India, and other worthy charities.

The Board close their report with the conviction that never before in the history of Masonry in this jurisdiction has Craft Masonry been in as flourishing a condition as at the present time.

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Condition of Masonry.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE FRATERNAL DEAD.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. the G. M., Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

M. W. SIR AND BRETHERN,—Another year has passed away since last we met in sweet communion, and we view with sadness the loss of those whom we held most dear, with whom we were wont to meet in gladness, whose life was one sweet song. The grim reaper, death, who,—

"With his sickle keen,
Reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between,"

—whispered the word "Come," and they have gone to that undiscovered country whence no traveller returns. We are left to take the places of those who are gone before us, but their memory will ever remain bright and green, and out of the dim and misty future their voices beckon us away into the strange and unfathomable darkness of the dreamland beyond.

London, No. 3 District, loses a bright Mason in the death of R. W. Bro. Robt. McKay, St. Thomas.

South Huron District, No. 4, is bereft of the wise counsels of R. W. Bro. R. H. Collins, Exeter.

Ontario District, No. 12, mourns the loss of R. W. Bro. Vincent Clementi, P. G. Chaplain, who, by his stainless life, exemplified the grand principles of Masonry in an exalted degree.

Society at large, and the Craft in general, deeply deplore the death of R. W. Bro. C. R. Church, M. D., also R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, P. D. G. M.'s, men who were respected and beloved in the localities in which they resided.

Georgian District, No. 9, loses a good Mason in the death of V. W. Bro. James Buckley.

Grand Lodge deplores the loss of its P. G. Steward, V. W. Bro. Wm. Melrose, Baden.

R. W. Bro. James Reynolds, P. D. D. G. M., was a bright and promising Mason, a good worker, and his loss will be deeply deplored.

These Brethren, are a few of those who have heard their last bugle call, and to their friends and relatives we would extend a Mason's sympathy, the sympathy of the Brethren throughout the whole Province of Ontario, for those who, having fallen by the way, are lost and dead. And yet not lost, they are but gone before, preceding us by but the briefest span in the journey from the death which we call life to the blessed immortality in the Grand Lodge above.

Not dead—there is no death; what seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
Whose portals we call death.

And yet our hearts swell and our eyes involuntarily brim as memory once more brings back the familiar form, the winning smile, the kindly glance, the warm hand clasp which welcomed us whene'er we met. But we do not sorrow as those without hope. They may have died, but the world is nobler for the lives they lived. Their eyes have closed, let ours be the clearer vision to see and do our duty; their nerveless hands have dropped, let ours be the readier for the kindly act; their feet have failed, let ours be the more firmly planted in the steps they trod.

That weak and wavering, brave and strong,
Lead all at last to God.

They are not dead; they have received the great summons to the Grand Lodge above; they have knocked at the portals; they have given the password, "faith, hope, charity;" they have presented their life's work as faithful Craftsmen, and let us hope that the G. A. O. T. U. has in His mercy said to each of them: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

They are not dead: they live in our hearts and lives; if we but close our eyes we see them once again, we feel their touch, we hear their voices, and clear above all there sounds, "Where we have erred, do ye improve—let our weakness give you strength, let our failure grant you the fuller measure of success. Be ye also ready."

Nay, not dead. They are not dead—they sleep, awaiting the final triumph of the bright Morning Star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race, and their works do follow them.

May we, treading the mosaic pavement on which they, too, walked, recall to mind those who have preceded us. May we, too, square our lives on the principles of truth and justice, so that when we in our turn are "but as shadows here" we may ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and rules for ever and ever.

May each of us when we receive the dread summons say:

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark,
But may there be no sadness of farewell
When I embark.

For tho' from out the bourne of time add place
The Flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

Fraternally submitted,

R. HILLIER,

Chairman *pro tem*.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, and

Resolved, That the report of the Board on Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, when it was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be received and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON CONSTITUTION
AND LAWS.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT.

The Sub-Committee on Constitution and Laws beg to report as follows:

Your Committee, in considering the various notices of motions submitted to it, without expressing any opinion upon the merits of the proposed amendments to the Constitution or the resolutions proposed for the consideration of Grand Lodge, are of the opinion that all the proposed amendments and resolutions can properly be submitted for the consideration of Grand Lodge.

WM. R. WHITE,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Constitution and Laws be received and adopted.

GRAND LODGE HISTORIAN.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. William Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved, That in conformity with the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master, this Grand Lodge deems it a fitting time to honor M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M., for the distinguished services rendered by him to craft literature throughout this and sister jurisdictions by appointing him to the honorary position of Historian of this Grand Lodge.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

Per Capita Tax.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert, seconded by W. Bro. John Nicholson,

That clause 254 of the Book of Constitution be struck out and the following substituted therefor: "For every member thereof, each private lodge shall pay towards the fund for Grand Lodge purposes twenty-five cents per annum." *Lost.*

Place of Meeting.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. Robert Cuthbert, seconded by W. Bro. John Patton,

That clause 16 of the Book of Constitution be amended by striking out the words "which the place of holding the next Communication shall be decided" and by inserting the words "the City of Toronto." *Lost.*

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

The following Grand Representatives presented their credentials, which were accepted, and the representatives saluted with Grand Honors:

- R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, for the G. L. of Michigan.
- M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, for the G. L. of Quebec.
- R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, for the G. L. of Illinois.

CALLED OFF.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Thursday, 19th July, at 10.30 o'clock forenoon.

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 19th July, A. D. 1900.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, G. M., on the Throne.
Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Communications were presented and read from M. W. Bro. Geo. W. Fortmeyer, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, near the Grand Lodge of New Jersey,

M. W. Bro. E. W. Durant, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and

R. W. Bro. Samuel J. Chadbourne, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, near the Grand Lodge of Maine, giving interesting particulars with regard to their respective Grand Lodges, and extending to the Grand Lodge of Canada their fraternal greetings.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives of this Grand Lodge beg to report that there are 362 Warranted Lodges on the Grand Register; 203 are represented by their duly qualified officers; 96 are represented by proxy; 19 are not represented by proxy but have Past Masters present; 44 are unrepresented in

any way. There are 919 names registered, having a total of 1,596 votes.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM ROAF,
JNO. M. SHAW,
GEO. S. MAY,

Committee.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, seconded by R. W. Bro. Geo. S. May, and

Resolved, That the Supplementary Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, and upon their report the following were declared duly elected as office bearers for the ensuing term, namely :

M. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Lindsay, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. A. Gordon McWhinney, London, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Alexander Gibson, Peterboro', Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Rev. J. C. Farthing, Woodstock, Grand Chaplain.

M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. J. D. Clark, Ottawa, Grand Registrar.

M. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, Grand Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge,

Bro. William Tocher, Hamilton, Grand Tyler.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg.

R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Ingersoll.

R. W. Bro. D. F. MacWatt, Sarnia.

R. W. Bro. John S. Dewar, London.

R. W. Bro. W. D. McPherson, Toronto.

And for one year,

R. W. Bro. P. W. D. Brodrick, London.

Subsequently the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments on the Board for the ensuing term, namely :

R. W. Bro. Ben. Allen, Toronto.

R. W. Bro. DeWitt H. Martyn, Kincardine.

R. W. Bro. L. Secord, Brantford.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Ottawa.
 R. W. Bro. F. C. Martin, Woodstock.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of lodges as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts, and were appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, viz. :

- R. W. Bro. Rev. W. H. Jamieson, D. D., Blenheim, Erie District No. 1.
- R. W. Bro. Albert W. Parks, Oil Springs, St. Clair District No. 2.
- R. W. Bro. John Thornicroft, Lambeth, London District No. 3.
- R. W. Bro. D. E. Monroe, Auburn, South Huron District No. 4.
- R. W. Bro. James S. Scott, Kincardine, North Huron District No. 5.
- R. W. Bro. James Smiley, Paris, Wilson District No. 6.
- R. W. Bro. Wm. Cowan, Galt, Wellington District No. 7.
- R. W. Bro. Wm. Birrell, Hamilton, Hamilton District No. 8.
- R. W. Bro. Alvin Orton, Bradford, Georgian District No. 9.
- R. W. Bro. T. A. Simpson, Beamsville, Niagara District No. 10.
- R. W. Bro. W. H. McFadden, Brampton, Toronto West District No. 11.
- R. W. Bro. H. J. Gould, Uxbridge, Toronto East District No. 11a.
- R. W. Bro. G. H. Linton, Orono, Ontario District No. 12.
- R. W. Bro. N. A. Bonesteel, Frankford, Prince Edward District No. 13.
- R. W. Bro. A. Shaw, Kingston, Frontenac District No. 14.
- R. W. Bro. A. D. Cameron, Lancaster, St. Lawrence District No. 15.
- R. W. Bro. John Robertson, Ottawa, Ottawa District No. 16.
- R. W. Bro. J. A. McCrossan, Rat Portage, Algoma District No. 17.
- R. W. Bro. G. W. Liddle, North Bay, Nipissing District No. 18.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

It was decided by ballot that the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge should be held at the City of Hamilton.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

M. W. Bro. William A. Sutherland, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of the State of New York, was announced, introduced and welcomed with Grand Honors.

HONORARY RANK CONFERRED.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, and

Resolved, That Honorary Membership in this Grand Lodge, with the Rank of Past Grand Master, and with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining, be conferred on M. W. Bro. W. A. Sutherland, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New York.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, seconded by M. W. Bro. William Gibson, and

Resolved, That the Rank of Past Grand Master be conferred on R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved, That the Rank of Past Grand Senior Warden be conferred on W. Bro. the Hon. Chief Justice Fitzgibbon, Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the Rank of Past Grand Registrar be conferred upon V. W. Bro. N. L. Steiner, Past Assistant Grand Organist of this Grand Lodge.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, seconded by R. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, and

Resolved, That the Rank of Past Master be conferred upon W. Bro. A. P. McCuaig, of Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, Ottawa, he having resigned his office before the expiration of his term in order to proceed to South Africa with D Battery to assist in defending and upholding the interests of the British Empire.

ROBERTSON'S HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. Shaw, and

Resolved, That the sum of four hundred dollars be taken from the funds of Grand Lodge for the purchase from the author of a sufficient number of sets of Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada, for presentation to Sister Grand Lodges of the United States.

REPORT ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The Report of the Board of General Purposes on the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master not being ready for presentation, the Grand Master submitted certain of his acts, decisions and recommendations, which acts, decisions and recommendations were approved of and confirmed by Grand Lodge, namely :

1. Grant of \$2,000.00 towards the relief of the sufferers by the Ottawa and Hull fire.
2. Grant of \$1,000.00 to the National Patriotic Fund.
3. Refusal to grant certain dispensations.
4. Appointments of Grand Representatives.
5. Denunciation of "begging" and "chain letter" circulars.
6. Recommendation to continue in affiliation with the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada.
7. Memorials to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, M. W. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.
8. Decisions 1, 2 and 3 as set forth in the address. Subsequently R. W. Bro. Hungerford, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit their report on the Annual Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Board desire to congratulate Most Worshipful Bro. Malone at the termination of his two years' service as ruler of the Craft in this jurisdiction upon the highly able and acceptable manner in which throughout his Grand Mastership all duties have been performed by him.

He has displayed energy and enthusiasm in not only meeting the requirements of the office, but in attending meetings of the Craft and inspiring Grand Lodge officers and the Craft generally with the zeal and activity which are so characteristic of himself. It is a proud boast for any Grand Master to be able to say, as has been said in the report on the Condition of Masonry, that the Craft in this jurisdiction has never been in so prosperous a condition as during his term of office. To our Most Worshipful Brother no slight measure of credit is due for this happy and satisfactory state of affairs. The Board refrain from dealing specifically with the various points mentioned in the address, inasmuch as Grand Lodge has already made definite pronouncement upon them.

The Board conclude by expressing the confident hope that notwithstanding the gavel is about to be handed over by the Grand Master to his successor, the Brethren of Grand Lodge

entertain the sincere hope and desire that in the future, as in the past, they shall always have the benefit and advantage of our Most Worshipful Brother's valuable co-operation and experience in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the Craft in this jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

R. B. HUNGERFORD.

Chairman Sub-Committee on Grand Master's Address.

CANADIAN CONTINGENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. the Hon. J. M. Gibson, seconded by V. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, and

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, has great pleasure in placing on record an expression of the heart-felt pride and satisfaction of the Brethren of this jurisdiction in the fact that His Excellency Lord Roberts of Candahar, Field Marshal, Commander of Her Majesty's Forces in South Africa, and the troops under his command, have so nobly and gloriously sustained the traditions of the British Army by successfully and promptly repelling the invasion of British colonies, taking possession of the territory of the invaders and re-establishing the supremacy and authority of the British Crown in that important part of Her Majesty's dominions. That the people of this country naturally feel a just pride that in many of the important engagements which have taken place during the campaign Canadians, under W. Bro. Lt.-Col. Otter and other commanding officers, have fought side by side with veteran corps of the British army, and so acquitted themselves as to deserve and receive the hearty commendations of the Commander-in-Chief and other officers of high rank.

Resolved further, That while rejoicing in the success of the British arms and the advantage that has been taken by Canada of the opportunity of proving to Great Britain and the Empire the loyal attachment of our people to the Throne and their willingness to have their loyalty submitted to a practical test, the heart-felt sympathy of the Grand Lodge is extended to the families of those who have lost their lives and to those who have been wounded or incapacitated during the campaign.

Resolved further, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to R. W. Bro. Lord Roberts, Field Marshal, Commander-in-Chief, and that a further copy be forwarded to W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Otter,

REPORT ON PRESENTATION TO THE GRAND SECRETARY.

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Communication to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, presented their Report in which the following address was embodied :

To M. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in Ontario :

At the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge a recommendation of the Board of General Purposes was adopted, providing for the presentation to you of some token of Grand Lodge's appreciation of your services as Grand Secretary for the past quarter of a century, and a committee was appointed for the purpose of giving effect to that recommendation.

The tangible testimony of your brethren's esteem and affection, which it is hoped may always be regarded by you and your dear wife and family, as a treasured heirloom, will in due course be placed in your possession; but opportunity is taken at the present Communication of Grand Lodge of expressing to you in some measure the admiration of your brethren of the great ability and administrative zeal and tact which you have always displayed in discharging the duties of Executive Officer of Grand Lodge.

During so long a period it would be surprising if, in the fearless and impartial performance of your duties, bringing you into constantly recurring correspondence in every part of the jurisdiction, friction should not occasionally arise, and yet the record of the twenty-five years seems to have been singularly free from even the slightest trace of dissatisfaction with the administration of your official duties.

Your naturally great ability, quickness of perception and soundness of judgment have saved both Grand Lodge and yourself much of the trouble and worry which would have been experienced in the case of a less capable and discreet officer. At the same time your bright and generous hearted personality has always rendered business relations with you pleasing and agreeable.

Occasions have been numerous and, not seldom, important, when Grand Lodge has been represented by you and responded for eloquently and effectively, and your name and reputation in the Masonic fraternity extend far beyond the limits of your own Grand Lodge. The high positions attained by you in Capitular Masonry, in the Great Priory, and in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, justify and confirm your fame and distinction as an eminent Mason; but you will always be known and remembered by the present generation of Masons at least, in connection with the duties you have so faithfully and efficiently discharged as our Grand Secretary.

It is the heartfelt wish and earnest prayer of your Brethren of Grand Lodge that you may have improved health, strength and vigor, continuing in your office for many years to come, and that by the blessing of our Heavenly Father you and those who are nearest and dearest to you may enjoy much prosperity and happiness.

Signed on behalf of Grand Lodge: .

WILLIAM GIBSON, P.G.M.,

J. M. GIBSON, P.G.M.,

HUGH MURRAY, P.G.M.,

Committee.

M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, in the absence through illness of the Grand Secretary, and on his behalf, in most suitable terms thanked the Grand Lodge for the high honor conferred upon Bro. Mason, and the Committee for the generous and substantial manner in which they had carried out the wishes of Grand Lodge in respect to the Testimonial. M. W. Bro. Murray was asked to convey to M. W. Bro. Mason the earnest hopes of Grand Lodge for his speedy recovery.

GRAVENHURST SANATORIUM.

The M. W. the Grand Master having called for a report from the Committee appointed at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge to examine into and report upon the proposal to devote a part of the Asylum Fund to the establishment of a cottage at the Gravenhurst Home for Consumptives, and no report being forthcoming, it was moved by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged.

THANKS TO LONDON LODGES.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, seconded by R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, and

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee of Management of the London lodges for the satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present Annual Communication.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, assisted by M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and J. M. Gibson, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly-elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz. :

V. W. Bro. C. H. Marlatt, M. D., Aylmer, Grand Senior Deacon.

“ A. L. Malone, Toronto, Grand Junior Deacon.

“ H. P. O'Connor, Walkerton, Grand Superintendent of Works.

“ J. R. Palmer, Tilbury Centre, Grand Director of Ceremonies.

“ R. Easton-Burns, Kingston, Assistant Grand Secretary.

“ James W. Turley, Ottawa, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

“ J. R. Wood, M. D., Sarnia, Grand Sword Bearer.

“ Rev. W. Farncomb, Fenelon Falls, Grand Organist.

“ Hugh Kennedy, Bolton, Assistant Grand Organist.

“ Walter Morgan, London, Grand Pursuivant.

“ G. W. Sutherland, Welland, Grand Steward.

“ Jacob Stewart, Exeter, Grand Steward.

“ A. J. Young, Cache Bay, Grand Steward.

“ B. R. Teetzel, Highgate, Grand Steward.

“ J. J. Manning, Brampton, Grand Steward.

“ G. B. Magee, Merrickville, Grand Steward.

“ F. W. Royce, Hillsburg, Grand Steward.

“ R. H. Knight, Sault Ste. Marie, Grand Steward.

“ Robert Higham, Guelph, Grand Steward.

“ J. H. Herring, Hamilton, Grand Steward.

“ W. S. Morden, Belleville, Grand Steward.

“ Richard Guest, Thorndale, Grand Steward.

“ J. R. Croft, Beeton, Grand Standard Bearer.

“ Milo A. Hogan, Tilsonburg, Grand Standard Bearer.

TESTIMONIAL TO M. W. BRO. E. T. MALONE.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, seconded by R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, and

Resolved, That a Committee consisting of M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray, Wm. Gibson, and J. J. Mason and R. W. Bro. Alex. Gibson be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Past Grand Master, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the Craft in this jurisdiction during the past two years.

THE GRAND LODGE CLOSED.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed at 4 o'clock p. m., in ample form.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT JUNE 24TH, 1900, AND
Lodges marked (a) hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
2	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Andrew Ferry...	Saml. Campbell
3	aThe An. St. John's	Kingston.....	1st Thursday..	J. Morgan Shaw..	G. W. H. Comber
5	aSussex.....	Brockville.....	1st Friday.....	Wm. W. Wood....	Geo. K. Dewey...
6	Barton.....	Hamilton.....	2d Monday.....	S. G. Moore.....	J. F. Dick.....
7	Union.....	Grimsby.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	W. J. Drope.....	W. F. Randall...
9	aUnion.....	Napanea.....	F. on or b. f. m.	W. S. Harrington	E. W. Scott.....
10	aNorfolk.....	Simcoe.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Geo. J. Green....	Wm. P. Kelly....
11	aMoira.....	Belleville.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Chancey Ashley..	John Newton....
14	aTrue Britons.....	Perth.....	1st Monday.....	D. G. MacMartin..	W. A. Moore.....
15	St. George's.....	St. Cathar's.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. W. Wilson..	A. N. Lindsay...
16	aSt. Andrew's.....	Toronto.....	2nd Tuesday.....	A. H. Peynar.....	J. F. Slater.....
17	St. John's.....	Colbourn.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Wm. W. Hovey....	Robert Buck....
18	aPrince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	H. Mulholland....	Wm. Smeaton...
20	aSt. John's.....	London.....	2nd Tuesday.....	R. A. Bayley.....	M. D. Dawson...
21a	aSt. John's.....	Vankleek Hill	Tu. on or b. f. m.	H. Carl Jones....	J. A. Ferguson...
22	aKing Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	2d Thursday..	R. Walker.....	W. R. P. Parker..
23	Richmond.....	Richm'd Hill	M. on or b. f. m.	Ernest A. Combs	H. A. Nicholls..
24	aSt. Francis.....	Smith's Falls	F. on or b. f. m.	C. J. Humphrey...	A. J. Houston...
25	aIonic.....	Toronto.....	1st Tuesday.....	S. B. Sykes.....	C. R. W. Postwaite
26	aOntario.....	Port Hope.....	3rd Thursday..	J. H. Collinson...	W. J. Robertson
27	aStrict Observance	Hamilton.....	3rd Friday.....	Robt. Morton....	Wm. C. Morton...
28	aMount Zion.....	Kemptville.....	W. b. f. m.....	Oliver Bascomb..	W. L. Phelps....
29	aUnited.....	Brighton.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	W. Montgomery...	B. C. H. Fecker..
30	aComposite.....	Whitby.....	1st Thursday..	Fred. Blair.....	Jos. White.....
31	aJerusalem.....	Bowmanville	W. on or b. f. m.	C. P. Hinch.....	Jos. Pattinson..
32	aAmity.....	Dunnville.....	W. on or a. f. m.	S. W. Brown.....	E. J. Aikens.....
33	aMaitland.....	Goderich.....	2nd Tuesday.....	Wm. D. Tye.....	Ross A. Bastedo
34	aThistle.....	Amherstb'rg	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Thos. Hodge, MD	W. T. Wilkinson
35	St. John's.....	Cayuga.....	Th. on or a. f. m.	Peter J. Vollick..	Ed. T. Seaton...
37	aKing Hiram.....	Ingersoll.....	1st Friday.....	H. Rowland.....	W. A. Woolson...
38	aTrent.....	Trenton.....	Tuesday b. f. m.	G. R. Robertson..	W. Booth.....
39	aMount Zion.....	Brooklin.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Jno. J. Moore, MD	E. R. Eddy.....
40	aSt. John's.....	Hamilton.....	3rd Thursday..	J. T. Cranford...	W. G. McAllister
41	aSt. George's.....	Kingsville.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	E. Allworth, M. D.	Geo. Rumble....
42	aSt. George's.....	London.....	1st Wednesday	J. E. Adkins.....	A. Ellis.....
43	aKing Solomon's.....	Woodstock.....	1st Tuesday.....	J. S. Kenney.....	A. McGachie....
44	aSt. Thomas.....	St. Thomas.....	1st Thursday..	John A. Consee...	L. Slater.....
45	aBrant.....	Brantford.....	2nd Tuesday.....	Josh. Broadbent..	B. F. Passmore...
46	aWellington.....	Chatham.....	1st Monday.....	J. S. Turner.....	Alex. Gregory...
47	aGreat Western.....	Windsor.....	Th. on or b. f. m.	Geo. E. White....	I. P. McConnell
48	aMadoc.....	Madoc.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	Chas. H. Tumelty..	R. T. Gray.....
50	aConsecon.....	Consecon.....	F. on or b. f. m.	W. R. McKibbin...	W. Bowen.....
52	aDalhousie.....	Ottawa.....	1st Tuesday.....	J. S. Parrington..	B. C. Scott.....
54	aVaughan.....	Maple.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	J. A. McDonald...	L. Richardson...
55	aMerrickville.....	Merrickville...	Tu. on or b. f. m.	H. Wallace Bell...	Thos. Culbert...
56	aVictoria.....	Sarnia.....	1st Tuesday.....	W. D. Hall.....	F. C. Watson....
57	aHarmony.....	Binbrook.....	W. on or b. f. m.	J. F. Senn.....	Robt. Wright...
58	aDoric.....	Ottawa.....	1st Friday.....	J. L. Culbert.....	J. F. Argue.....
61	aAcacia.....	Hamilton.....	2nd Friday.....	S. A. Morgan.....	W. W. Alton....
62	aSt. Andrew's.....	Caledonia.....	W. on or b. f. m.	A. R. McRitchie...	John Thompson
63	aSt. John's.....	Carleton Place	2d Wednesday	Thos. Fraser.....	A. T. Hudson...
64	aKilwinning.....	London.....	3rd Thursday..	Ben. S. Murray...	John Overell...
65	aRehoboth.....	Toronto.....	1st Thursday..	E. H. Briggs.....	Geo. H. Mitchell
66	aDurham.....	Newcastle.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	A. Farncomb, MD	E. Simmons.....
68	aSt. John's.....	Ingersoll.....	3rd Friday.....	Sidney C. Partlo..	J. H. Hegler....
69	aStirling.....	Stirling.....	Th. after f. m.	W. Broadman....	G. W. Bailey....
72	aAlma.....	Galt.....	Last Tuesday..	R. S. Hamilton...	A. J. Oliver.....
73	aSt. James.....	St. Marys.....	1st Monday.....	Jno. G. Constable	A. Carman.....
74	aSt. James.....	Bethel.....	M. nearest f. m.	C. H. Fitzsimons..	Syrenus Cole....
75	aSt. John's.....	Toronto.....	1st Monday.....	E. J. Cashman....	D. Chisholm...
76	aOxford.....	Woodstock.....	2d Monday.....	J. A. Hamilton...	Robt. Anderson..
77	aFaithful Brethren	Lindsay.....	1st Friday.....	A. Williamson...	R. G. Cornell...
78	aKing Hiram.....	Tilsonburg.....	W. on or b. f. m.	Fred. Biette.....	L. B. C. Livingston
79	aSimcoe.....	Bradford.....	4th Friday.....	Alvin Orton.....	Geo. Coombs....
81	aSt. John's.....	Mt. Brydges..	Tu. on or b. f. m.	H. Badge.....	Thomas C. West
82	aSt. John's.....	Paris.....	Tu. on or b. f. m.	R. E. Haire.....	W. Barrowclough

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1900.

the Evangelist; all others on that St. John the Baptist.

No. of Lodge	Initial	Passed.	Bailed.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total Memb's	Last Retrns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2				45	Dec. '99	\$ 1 00		\$ 99 50
3	3	3	1	1	1	1	2				185	Jun 1900			88 00
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	2				147				133 00
5	5	5	1	1	1	1	2				334		79 00		108 00
6	6	6	1	1	1	1	2				60		14 50		83 50
7	7	7	1	1	1	1	2				84			\$ 2 00	98 75
8	8	8	1	1	1	1	2				95	June '99	58 50		64 50
9	9	9	1	1	1	1	2				169	Jun 1900		1 00	117 00
10	10	10	1	1	1	1	2				90				58 75
11	11	11	1	1	1	1	2				81				46 50
12	12	12	1	1	1	1	2				282			2 00	176 75
13	13	13	1	1	1	1	2				72				21 50
14	14	14	1	1	1	1	2				187				137 50
15	15	15	1	1	1	1	2				166		10 00		104 25
16	16	16	1	1	1	1	2				51		3 00		46 00
17	17	17	1	1	1	1	2				902		4 00		195 50
18	18	18	1	1	1	1	2				32				20 50
19	19	19	1	1	1	1	2				105				80 25
20	20	20	1	1	1	1	2				235				154 75
21	21	21	1	1	1	1	2				72				58 50
22	22	22	1	1	1	1	2				279		1 50		180 25
23	23	23	1	1	1	1	2				30	Dec. '99			34 00
24	24	24	1	1	1	1	2				62	Jun 1900			43 00
25	25	25	1	1	1	1	2				66			2 00	49 75
26	26	26	1	1	1	1	2				62		3 00		76 00
27	27	27	1	1	1	1	2				69		37 00		6 00
28	28	28	1	1	1	1	2				113				79 50
29	29	29	1	1	1	1	2				50				26 50
30	30	30	1	1	1	1	2				79				61 50
31	31	31	1	1	1	1	2				62	Dec. '99			58 50
32	32	32	1	1	1	1	2				84	Jun 1900		2 00	69 50
33	33	33	1	1	1	1	2				27	June '99	6 00		27 00
34	34	34	1	1	1	1	2				355				219 25
35	35	35	1	1	1	1	2				90	Jun 1900		1 00	71 75
36	36	36	1	1	1	1	2				114	Dec. '99	75 00		56 50
37	37	37	1	1	1	1	2				92	Jun 1900			69 25
38	38	38	1	1	1	1	2				160				117 50
39	39	39	1	1	1	1	2				121		41 00		129 75
40	40	40	1	1	1	1	2				119				72 25
41	41	41	1	1	1	1	2				188			8 00	117 00
42	42	42	1	1	1	1	2				94		45 00		3 50
43	43	43	1	1	1	1	2				36	Dec. '99			81 50
44	44	44	1	1	1	1	2				130	Jun 1900	1 50		125 25
45	45	45	1	1	1	1	2				32				23 75
46	46	46	1	1	1	1	2				56				40 75
47	47	47	1	1	1	1	2				105				101 25
48	48	48	1	1	1	1	2				56				55 00
49	49	49	1	1	1	1	2				98				68 50
50	50	50	1	1	1	1	2				268				192 75
51	51	51	1	1	1	1	2				36		9 25		23 00
52	52	52	1	1	1	1	2				109				70 75
53	53	53	1	1	1	1	2				168	Dec. '99			116 50
54	54	54	1	1	1	1	2				223	Jun 1900	3 00		154 25
55	55	55	1	1	1	1	2				31	Dec. '99			10 25
56	56	56	1	1	1	1	2				84	Jun 1900			46 75
57	57	57	1	1	1	1	2				59				43 25
58	58	58	1	1	1	1	2				94				43 50
59	59	59	1	1	1	1	2				66				69 50
60	60	60	1	1	1	1	2				44				18 75
61	61	61	1	1	1	1	2				233				186 25
62	62	62	1	1	1	1	2				113				109 25
63	63	63	1	1	1	1	2				89				49 25
64	64	64	1	1	1	1	2				113		2 50		73 00
65	65	65	1	1	1	1	2				50				40 25
66	66	66	1	1	1	1	2				51		1 00		30 25
67	67	67	1	1	1	1	2				51				48 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1900, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
83	aBeaver.....	Strathroy	F. on or a.f.m	F. W. Atkinson..	R. F. Richardson
84	aClinton.....	Clinton	F. on or a.f.m	E. M. McLean..	W. F. Spalding
85	aRising Sun.....	Athens	Th. on or b.f.m	J. F. Purvis, M.D.	Jas. Ross
86	aWilson.....	Toronto	3rd Tuesday..	Alva Carvet	Thos. A. Duff
87	Markham Union	Markham	F. on or b.f.m	Frank A. Reesor	H. A. Mason
88	St. George's.....	Owen Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Dan McKenzie..	John Rutherford
90	aManito.....	Collingwood	W. on or a.f.m	C. A. McDonald..	T. H. White
91	aColborne.....	Colborne	F. on or b.f.m	Geo. H. Webb	Geo. Keyes
92	aCatawaqui.....	Kingston	2d Wednesday	John Gordon	Robt. Hendry, Jr
93	aNorthern Light	Kincardine	1st Wednesday	H. Collins	R. D. Hall
94	aSt. Mark's.....	Port Stanley	2d Tuesday..	Al. x. Taylor	Edw. Witty
95	aCorinthian.....	Barrie	1st Thursday	J. L. Barnum	Alfred Wilkes
97	aSharon.....	Sharon	Tu. on or b.f.m	Albert Travis	P. F. Pearson, M.D
98	True Blue.....	Bolton	F. on or b.f.m	J. N. Bonnar	Robt. Roberts
99	aTuscan.....	Newmarket	2d Wednesday	Alfred Webb	C. H. Lloyd
100	Valley.....	Dundas	M. b.f.m	C. Hetherington	F. A. Latahaw
101	aCorinthian.....	Peterboro	W. on or b.f.m	John Beatty	D. Walker
103	aMaple Leaf.....	a Catharines	Last Thursday	B. J. Peubs off	H. J. Johnston
104	St. John's.....	Norwich	W. on or a.f.m	Arthur D. Ellis	G. W. Poldos
105	aSt. Mark's.....	N. Falls S'th	Tu. on or b.f.m	S. J. Vandersburg	W. D. Garner
106	aBurford.....	Burford	W. on or b.f.m	J. C. Brown	C. H. Pratt
107	St. Paul's.....	Lambeth	W. on or b.f.m	W. A. Piper	H. Poole
108	Blenheim.....	Princeton	F. on or a.f.m	John Ramsay	A. R. Hoston
109	aAlbion.....	Har'owsmith	F. on or b.f.m	A. Forsyth	James Cooke
110	aCentral.....	Prescott	1st Tuesday..	H. F. Deas	H. H. Wells
113	aWilson.....	Waterford	W. on or b.f.m	C. R. Clapp	E. G. Christie
114	aHope.....	Port Hope	2nd Friday..	Rev. W. R. Young	W. G. Coulter
115	Elvy.....	Beamsville	Tu. on or b.f.m	John Gibson	A. N. Myer
116	aCassia.....	Theford	M. on or b.f.m	J. D. Morrison	Geo. Sutherland
118	Union.....	Schomberg	M. on or b.f.m	S. Leatherland	W. J. Brereton
119	aMaple Leaf.....	Bath	M. before f. m	Rev. W. J. Sanders	F. W. Arms rong
120	aWarren.....	Fingal	Tu. on or b.f.m	Frank R. Elise	L. J. Elise
121	aDoric.....	Brantford	3rd Friday..	M. Wilbie	John S. Gray
122	aRenfrew.....	Renfrew	1st Monday..	D. H. McArthur	James Reid
123	aThe Belleville	Belleville	1st Thursday	J. S. McK own	W. H. Adams
125	aCornwall.....	Cornwall	1st Tuesday..	J. G. Harkness	A. E. McLean
126	aGolden Rule.....	Cam'bellford	F. on or b.f.m	G. H. Pollard	Geo. L. Di kon
127	aFrank.....	Frankford	M. before f. m	Geo. A. Rose	D. A. Bonesteel
128	aPembroke.....	Pembroke	1st Thursday	John H. Reeves	Alex. Morris
129	The Rising Sun	Aurora	F. on or b.f.m	R. M. Hillary	D. A. Radcliffe
131	aSt. Lawrence.....	Southam'ton	Tu. on or a.f.m	J. E. Williams	J. Hogart
133	aLebanon Forest	Exeter	M. on or b. f. m	Jas. A. Stewart	C. H. Sanders
135	aSt. Clair.....	Milton	Th. on or b.f.m	Geo. E. Sitzer	J. H. Peacock
136	Richardson.....	Stouffville	T. on or b. f. m	J. W. Shankhill	Thos. Smith
137	aPythagoras.....	Meaford	F. nearest f. m	L. F. Boyd	J. Patterson
139	aLebanon.....	Oshawa	2nd Tuesday..	W. Dickie	Jas. McCaw
140	aMalahide.....	Aylmer	W. on or b.f.m	L. Cascadden	C. F. Burdick
141	aTudor.....	Mitchell	Tu. on or b.f.m	C. H. Merryfield	W. F. May
142	aExcelsior.....	Morrisburg	F. on or b.f.m	H. J. Whittier	John Warren
143	aFriendly Brothers	Iroquois	Wednes' b.f.m	Geo. C. Currie	D. Fink
144	aTecumseh.....	Stratford	3rd Friday..	Geo. Malcolm	Wm. E. Brooks
145	aJ. B. Hall.....	Millbrook	1st Thursday	C. H. Winston	R. J. Doak
146	aPrince of Wales	Newburgh	Wednes' b.f.m	Robt. Guy	G. A. Aylesworth
147	aMississippi.....	Almonte	1st Friday..	John Argue	Robt. Polock
148	aCivil Service.....	Ottawa	2d Tuesday..	Rev. T. Garrett	W. J. Beatty
149	aErie.....	Port Dover	M. on or b.f.m	J. R. Waddell	J. Vary
151	aThe Grand River	Berlin	2d Tuesday..	J. H. Landreth	A. Oelschlager
153	aBurns.....	Wyoming	Th. on or b.f.m	Ralph Brodie	J. M. Wilson
154	aIrving.....	Lucan	Th. on or b.f.m	Jos. Ferguson	Wm. Matheson
155	aPeterboro'.....	Peterboro'	1st Friday..	Rev. W. L. Arm'tage	R. W. McFadden
156	aYork.....	N. Toronto	3rd Friday..	H. H. Bull	R. J. Gibson
157	Simpson.....	Newboro'	Tu. on or b.f.m	Rich. G. Murphy	Josh H. Butler
158	aAlexandre.....	Oil Springs	Thursd'ya.f.m	Francis Nicoll	H. A. Beaton
159	aGoodwood.....	Richmond	W. on or b.f.m	J. H. Cryderman	H. Reily
161	aPercy.....	Warkworth	Wednes' b.f.m	J. Humphries	J. Padginton
162	aForest.....	Wroxeter	M. on or b.f.m	Thos. Brown	Thoe. Gibson, Jr

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1900.—Continued.

No. of Lodges	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Ex- pelled.	Re- stored.	Total Memb's	Last et'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal	Cr. Bal	
83	3	8	7	1	1						88	Dec. '99			\$ 81 25
84	4	4	3								86	Jun 1900			45 50
85	6	4	3		1		1			1	82	"			47 75
86	15	12	10	1	2	1	1			1	184	"	\$ 14 00		184 25
87	1	1	1	3						2	82	"			92 50
88	3	1	2							1	75	"			47 00
89	14	7	6	2	2	1	2			3	110	Dec. '99	23 25	4 00	139 75
90	3	3	4								83	"			36 25
91	16	15	13	3	1	4	1			1	122	Jun 1900			118 00
92	6	9	2		5					6	93	"			50 50
93	7	7	5	1						2	38	"			93 75
94	8	6	3	3	5	1				1	145	"	5 00		97 75
95			1								49	"			26 25
96											42	June '99			36 00
97	4	3	3	4	3	1				2	46	Dec. '99	6 00		16 00
98	6	5	6								77	Jun 1900	1 00		19 50
99	4	3	3	4	3	1	1			3	76	"	2 00		80 25
100	5	3	3								104	"			68 25
101	4	3	3		1	3	8			3	81	"			84 75
102	5	3	3		1	1	1				66	"		3 00	63 00
103	6	6	7								70	"			44 75
104	3	3	3	1						3	56	"	2 25		44 50
105	2	2	2								57	"			16 50
106	2	1	1								87	"			40 25
107	3	4	3		3	1	1			1	89	"			57 00
108	3	5	5								67	"			64 00
109	2	5	5	1	1	4	1			1	79	"			48 25
110	6	6	6	1	4	1	1				74	"	1 00		54 50
111	1	1	1	1	1	1	4				33	"			20 50
112	3	2	2	1	1	1	1				19	"			13 50
113	1	1	1								27	"			17 25
114	1	1	1								32	"			18 75
115	11	14	16	6	5	3	14			2	170	"	1 00		139 00
116	9	7	7		3	2					104	"			68 75
117	9	4	3		1	1	1		1		143	"			13 25
118	9	8	6			2					81	"			4 25
119	1	1	1		2					2	35	"			21 50
120	1	2	1								67	Dec. '99	18 00		56 25
121	3	3	3	2	4	3	8				124	Jun 1900			87 25
122	5	5	3	2						2	62	"	40 00		30 50
123	7	6	4	1							46	"	12 50		31 50
124	6	6	5	1	3	1	1			1	70	"		2 75	57 25
125	5	4	3	1		1					57	"	85 00		11 00
126	6	5	3	2	1						41	"			33 00
127	7	6	1	4	2					1	59	Dec. '99			44 50
128	1						3				62	"			44 00
129	7	3	3	4	2		2				88	Jun 1900	3 00		63 00
130	2				3	1	2			1	41	Dec. '99			98 00
131	2	2			7	3	10				56	"			36 25
132	5	4	1	1			6				69	"			51 50
133	11	14	13	1	7	1	2				112	Jun 1900			86 50
134	1	3	5		3	1					46	"	1 00		36 50
135	1	1					1				44	"			25 25
136	3	3	3	2	2	2					69	Dec. '99	1 25		51 50
137	3	2	2	9	2	2					83	"			54 00
138	2	1	1								55	"	2 00		57 00
139	7	7	8	2	2	1	3				95	Jun 1900			70 75
140	5	4	3	1	1		1				73	"	23 00		41 00
141	1	1	2	1	2	2	2			3	50	"			50 50
142	15	17	11	5	1		1			1	118	"			144 50
143	3	3	3	1	1		4			2	84	"	21 00		56 25
144	1	3	2	1	2	1				1	52	"			37 00
145	2	3	5								54	"			48 75
146	4	4	1								67	"			120 50
147	8	8				1				1	56	"			46 50
148							4				24	"			21 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1900, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
164	aStar in the East	Wellington	Tu.on or b.f.m	F'd.E. McDonald	C.S. Cunningham
165	aBurlington	Burlington	W. on or b.f.m	W. F. Glover	B. S. Hicks
166	aWentworth	Stoney Creek	M. on or b.f.m	Joha.H. McNeilly	R. H. Dewar
168	aMerritt	Welland	M. on or b.f.m	D. Ross	Geo. Wells
169	aMacnab	Pt. Colborne	Tu.on or b.f.m	E. J. Ellsworth	John Cook
170	aBritannia	Seaforth	1st Monday	John Dodds	J. O. Rose
171	aPrince of Wales	Lawrence St'n	F. on or a.f.m	S. H. Weldon	J. A. McIntyre
173	aAyr	Ayr	Tu.on or b.f.m	John Cassie	J. D. Paxton
174	aWalsingham	Port Rowan	Th.on or b.f.m	W. H. Meek	Jas. Ryan
177	The Builders	Ottawa	3d Friday	W. H. U. Hooper	H. H. Cairns
178	aPlattsville	Plattsville	F. on or b.f.m	J. B. Hewitt	W. R. Henderson
180	aSpeed	Guelph	1st Tuesday	W. A. R. pp.	Wm. Parker
181	aOriental	Port Burwell	Tu.on or b.f.m	S. T. Logan	M. G. Burwell
184	aOld Light	Lucknow	Th.on or b.f.m	I. Morrison	Harry Days
186	aEnnisakillen	York	M. on or b.f.m	F. A. Nelles	Rev.C. Scudamore
186	aPlantagenet	Plantagenet	M. on or b.f.m	F.L.Swi zer, M.D	W.A. Chamberl'n
190	Belmont	Belmont	F. on or b.f.m	Ralph Fonger	Jas. McMillan
192	aOrillia	Orillia	F. on or b.f.m	A. E. Ardagh	John M. Bain
193	aScotland	Scotland	M. on or b.f.m	Jas. Malcolm	E. H. Malcolm
194	aPetrolea	Petrolea	2d Wednesday	Samuel McCann	Mathew Smith
195	aThe Tuscan	London	1st Monday	J.M. McWhinney	P.W. D. Roderick
196	aMadawaska	Arnprior	3d Monday	F. Mont'forte	N. Campbell
197	aSaugeen	Walkerton	3d Tuesday	Thos. Marshall	Hugh Birse
200	St. Alban's	Mount Forest	F. on or b.f.m	C. A. Jones, M.D	W. G. Lowrey
201	aLeeds	Gananoque	Tu.on or b.f.m	John Kee	W. Y. Boyd
203	Irvine	Elora	3rd Friday	K. McMurchy	Thos. Godfrey
205	New Dominion	N. Hamburg	M. on or a.f.m	S. G. Holley	A. S. Fraser
207	aLancaster	Lancaster	W. on or b.f.m	R. T. Nicholson	W. N. McGillivray
209	St. John's	London	1st Friday	C. O. Morrow	T. A. Rowat
209	Evergreen	Lanark	1st Tuesday	Chris. Forbes	W. A. Fields
212	aElysian	Gar'n Island	1st Monday	John Kennedy	R. Raymond
215	Lake	Ameliasburg	F. on or b.f.m	Jas. W. Brickman	Geo. E. Roblin
216	aHarris	Orangeville	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. N. Fish	D. McPherson
217	aFrederick	Delhi	M. on or b.f.m	R. B. Wells, M.D	A. W. Crysler
218	aStevenson	Toronto	2d Monday	Wm. J. Wilson	R. Higginbottom
219	aCredit	Georgetown	F. on or b.f.m	J. J. Allen	T. A. Eargrey
220	aZeradatha	Uxbridge	M. on or b.f.m	R. Hollinger	J. G. Vicars
221	aMountain	Thorold	W. on or b.f.m	D. J. C. Munro	W. T. Fish
222	aMarmora	Marmora	Tuesd'y b.f.m	Jno. McWilliams	J. A. Hubbell
223	aNorwood	Norwood	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. C. Moffat	Jas. Anderson
224	aZurich	Hensall	Th.on or b.f.m	Hy. J. D. Cooke	Jas. Bonthron
225	aBernard	Listowel	F. on or b.f.m	A. F. G. Hawkins	J. J. Foster
226	aPrince Arthur	Odessa	M. on or a.f.m	R. L. Gilbert	Robt. Bennett
228	aIonic	Brampton	3rd Tuesday	Geo. W. Jackson	A. Morton
230	Kerr	Barrie	3rd Monday	H. Lennox	C. V. Bennett
231	Lodge of Fidelity	Ottawa	3rd Tuesday	Alex. F. Frood	John F. Stewart
232	aCameron	Dutton	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. Balkwill	R. A. Kirkland
233	aDoric	Park Hill	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. F. Roberts	F. J. Hutchins
234	aBeaver	Clarksburg	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Reekie	J. H. Dickinson
235	Aldworth	Falsley	F. on or b.f.m	D. N. McIntyre	W. J. Chisholm
236	aManitoba	Cookstown	Tu.on or a.f.m	M. J. Rogers	W. E. Stoddart
237	Vienna	Vienna	F. on or b.f.m	J. H. Hawkins	Geo. Thornton
238	Havelock	Watford	Tues.bef.b.f.m	W. E. Fitzgerald	David Watt
239	Tweed	Tweed	F. on or b.f.m	P. T. Bowby	C. W. Craig
242	aMacy	Mallorytown	M. on or b.f.m	A. McDonald	R. W. Tennant
243	aSt George	St. George	Th.on or b.f.m	J. W. Addison	D. H. Nellis
245	aTecumseh	Thamesville	Tu.on or b.f.m	Robert Pye	J. J. Vincent
247	aAshlar	Toronto	4th Tuesday	A. F. Webster	Thos. Reid
249	aCaledonian	Midland	Tu on or b.f.m	Rich. Ruikes, M.D	F. Wattbridge, M.D
250	Thistle	Embro	Th.on or b.f.m	W. J. Geddes	J. G. Anderson
253	aMinden	Kingston	1st Tuesday	John Nicoll	T. D. Minnes
254	Clifton	Niag. Falls	1st Thursday	F. J. Gribble	Alex. Gray
255	Sydenham	Dresden	2d Thursday	J. I. Wiley	H. S. McDonald
256	aFarran's Point	Farran's Pt.	W. on or b.f.m	J. M. Cook	R. H. Hanes
257	aGalt	Galt	1st Tuesday	T. C. Pe.roe	J. W. Gilliland

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1900.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Best'd.	Total M'bs	Last Returns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
164	9	7	5	4	2	1				1	63	Jun1900	\$ 1 50		\$ 46 50
165	1	1	2		1						50	Dec. '99	8 25		29 50
166	13	13	13	5	2	1					87	"	1 00		84 50
168	1	1			2	1					49	"			38 75
169						1					51	"	27 50		
170	4	5	4		2						87	Jun1900			69 25
171	7	7	6	3	2					1	37	"			34 00
172				1							48	June '98	4 00		
174	2	2	2	1							51	Jun1900			37 25
177	7	7	6	1	4	3	5			1	130	"	34 00		53 50
178	2	2	2		1						88	"			23 50
180	4	4	3			3	2			6	84	"	50		40 75
181	4	3	3			1					29	"			34 00
184	3	3	3		1		3				43	"			29 50
185	1	2	2		5					1	30	"	16 75		18 50
186	3	3	2								33	Dec. '99			31 50
190	4	2	4								31	Jun1900			39 25
192	4	5	7	2	2	2	2				93	"	46 50		96 00
193	2	2	3			1	2				56	"			39 75
194	2	2	3		3	3				1	84	"			45 00
195	4	4	3								83	Dec. '99	10 00		77 75
196	10	8	6		1	1					86	Jun1900			62 75
197	6	3	3		1	2	1				53	"	1 50		31 00
200	5	4	6		1	2				1	46	"			63 75
201	10	6	3		1	2	2			3	92	Dec. '99			1 00
203	5	5	3	1			1				48	Jun1900	6 00		28 50
206											35	June '98		2 00	
207											44	"			
209a	10	7	6	1	2	3	5			1	164	Dec. '99	6 00		104 25
09	11	11	10								44	Jun1900			67 00
12										1	28	"			15 50
15	1	1	1	2		1					60	"			44 50
16	20	16	8		4	1				3	112	"			66 00
17	3	2	1				1	1			39	"	19 00		3 00
18	10	11	14	2	5	2	8			1	185	"		2 00	168 25
19	8	5	5				5			1	60	"	13 50		1 00
20	3	3	3		5	1				4	70	"			51 25
221	7	7	7	1	1	2				3	68	"			66 50
222	2	2	4				3				54	"		3 00	53 75
223											21	June '99	1 00		10 50
224	5	6	6		3					1	42	Jun1900	12 00		44 00
225	4	5	7	1							88	"	50		68 75
226	1	1	1	1		1					33	"	1 50		18 75
229	2	2	1		3		1			1	70	"	1 00		44 25
230	6	6	5	4	3	1	1			1	104	"	2 60		69 50
231	13	8	6		2	3	3				99	"	50		84 75
232	8	7	7		2					2	33	"	2 00		53 75
233	1	1	1	1	1		1				44	"			46 00
234	2	5	2	1	2		1				56	"	16 50		31 00
235	2	2	2		1						38	"			22 75
236	4	3	3			1					28	Dec. '99		6 00	24 00
237	5	5	6				1			1	39	Jun1900			31 50
238	2	2	1		3	2	2				58	"	2 00		41 00
239											52	June '98	24 50		9 00
242	14	13	11			1				1	50	Jun1900			35 00
243	5	3	5	1			1				48	"			42 75
245	3	3	3	1	1						54	"			40 50
247	24	24	17	7	7	2	2			3	189	"			136 25
249	5	6	4	4	3	2	2				63	"			42 50
250	3	3	3		1		2				27	"			14 00
253	2	3	2	3							76	"			48 25
254	6	5	7		2		8			1	92	"	2 00		58 00
25	1	1	1	2	4						50	Dec. '98			35 00
25	2	3	4		2	1					70	Jun1900			45 75
257	8	8	11	2	1		1				64	"	8 60		55 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1900 AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
256	Guelph	Guelph	2d Tuesday	Alex. Cordiner	W. A. Mahoney
257	Washingt	Petrolia	1st Wednesday	J. Belasco	J. M. Hattie
261	Oak Branch	Innerkip	Th. on or b.f.m	G. B. Ward	E. C. VanSyckle
262	Harriston	Harriston	2d Monday	J. Hucks	S. W. Lambert
263	Forest	Forest	W. on or b.f.m	John Fraser	P. W. Campbell
264	Chaudiere	Ottawa	4th Tuesday	D. J. McCuaig	Jas. Peterkin
265	Patterson	Thoruhill	Th. on or b.f.m	John Drury	A. Muckle
266	Northern Light	Stayner	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. J. F. Sullivan	W. A. Doner
267	Parthenon	Chatham	1st Wednesday	W. Irving	Chas. R. Cape
268	Verulam	Sobaygeon	F. on or b.f.m	W. A. Davis	R. Ventress
269	Brougham Union	Claremont	W. on or a.f.m	E. J. Walsh	D. R. Beaton
270	Cedar	Oshawa	4th Tuesday	R.S. McLaughlin	L. K. Murton
271	Wellington	Erin	W. on or b.f.	Henry Gear	J. L. Leatch
272	Seymour	Ancaster	Tu. on or b.f.m	G.D. Farmer, MD	C. H. Stuart
274	Kent	Blenheim	M. on or b.f.m	S. G. Story, M.D.	J. Crookshank
276	Teeswater	Teeswater	F. on or b.f.m	Francis P. Moon	James Gallagher
277	Ieymour	P. Dalhousie	W. on or b.f.m	Harvey Colvin	John Green
279	New Hope	Hespler	W. on or b.f.m	B. H. Kopemann	John Jardine
282	Lorne	Glencoe	Th. on or b.f.m	J. E. Laughton	Edwin Gale
283	Eureka	Belleville	W. a. f. m.	C. O. Brickman	W. J. Diamond
284	St. John's	Brussels	Tu. on or b.f.m	P. J. Bishop	S. Wilton
285	Seven Star	Alliston	W. on or b.f.m	J. J. Harper	R. M. Wright
286	Wingham	Wingham	1st Tuesday	Jas. Golden	J. A. Morison
287	Shuniah	Port Arthur	1st Tuesday	John Ritchie	Jas. W. Morgan
289	Doric	Lobo	Th. on or b.f.m	Rev. N. Lindsay	P. L. Graham, MD
291	Leamington	Leamington	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. A. Baker	C. H. Kenney
291	Dufferin	W. Flamboro	Th. on or b.f.m	A. C. Ross	Alfred Jones
292	Robertson	King	M. on or b.f.m	A. D. Carly	A. Davis
293	T. Roy. Sol. Moth	Jerusal'm Pa	1st Wednesday	W. H. Kayat	Kalil Saadeh, MD
294	Moore	Courtright	Th. on or b.f.m	Fred. K. Johnson	W. A. Scott, MD
295	Conestogo	Drayton	Tu. on or a.f.m	Robert Lucy	G. A. Campbell
296	Temple	St. Catharins	Last Wednes.	Jno. W. Cornell	E. J. Lovelace
297	Preston	Pre-ton	F. on or b.f.m	C.R. Hanning	Jos. Baltzer
299	Victoria	Centreville	Th. on or b.f.m	W.H. Aylesworth	T. V. Anderson
300	Mount Olivet	Thorndale	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. Huckell	W. H. Salmon
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	3rd Thursday	W. H. Ingram	Fred. S. Lewis
303	Blyth	Blyth	Tu. on or a.f.m	J. B. Tierney	J. M. Hamilton
304	Minerva	Stroud	Tu. on or b.f.m	E.T. McConkey	C. E. Chantler
305	Humber	Weston	W. on or b.f.m	Thos. E. Elliott	R. H. Leighton
306	Durham	Durham	Tu. on or b.f.m	John P. Telford	R. J. S. Dewar
307	Arkona	Arkona	Th. on or b.f.m	A. A. Towns	Fred. Nelson
309	Morning Star	Smith's Hill	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. Young	John Varcoe
311	Blackwood	Woodbridge	F. on or b.f.m	David Morton	T. A. Ayar
312	Payx	Wallaceburg	M. on or b.f.m	D. Currie	E. E. Parker
313	Clementi	Lakefield	1st Tuesday	J. W. Bedpath	R. Q. Dench
314	Blair	Palmerston	F. after f. m.	Henry Clements	H. Hyndman, Jr
315	Clifford	Clifford	3rd Monday	E. Tolton	A. B. Allan
316	Doric	Toronto	3d Thursday	Alex. Anderson	H. E. Griffith
318	Wilmot	Baden	F. on or a.f.m	John Heldman	Alf. Kaufman
319	Hiram	Hagersville	Th. on or b.f.m	F. H. Kinsley	E. H. Kaffer
320	Chesterville	Chesterville	M. on or b.f.m	Geo. Elliot	J. G. Gillespie
321	Walker	Acton West	M. on or b.f.m	W. D. Frick	W. H. Kenney
322	North Star	Owen Sound	W. a. f. m.	W. H. Wright	W. P. Telford, Jr
323	Alvinston	Alvinston	W. on or b.f.m	J.B. Ma tyn, M.D	R. Bode
324	Temple	Hamilton	2d Tuesday	Alfred C. Crisp	Thos. P. dler
325	Orono	Orono	Th. on or b.f.m	G. H. Linton	Thoms. Smith
326	Zetland	Toronto	4th Friday	R. A. Donald	W. C. Eddis
327	The Hammond	Warville	3rd Tuesday	L. Glendenning	D. Johnson
328	Ionic	Napier	F. on or b.f.m	W. L. Toohill	W.H. Sutherland
329	King Solomon	Jarvis	F. on or b.f.m	John Hair	David Hill
330	Corinthian	London East	1st Tuesday	H. J. Childs	O. H. Simpson
331	Fordwich	Fordwich	Th. on or b.f.m	F. A. Donaghy	A. Hutchesson
332	Stratford	Stratford	2nd Monday	F. B. Jeffrey	J. H. Kenner
333	Prince Arthur	Flesherton	F. on or b.f.m	J. A. Boyd	W. J. Bellamy
334	Prince Arthur	Arthur	Tu. on or b.f.m	E. S. Snider	Alex. Graham

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1900.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With-drawn.	Deaths.	S.N. P.D.	S.U. M.C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total M'emb's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
258	8	6	4	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	75	Jun1900	\$ 1 00	.....	\$43 25
260	10	10	8	.....	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	81	Dec. '98	68 50	.....	90 25
261	1	1	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	29	Jun1900	7 00	.....	14 50
262	5	6	3	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	61	"	.....	.....	52 00
263	1	1	1	2	4	1	3	.....	.....	2	68	"	2 00	.....	54 50
264	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	104	June '98	.....	.....	.....
265	6	8	8	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	Jun1900	11 75	.....	36 00
266	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	June '99	2 00	.....	27 50
267	1	2	3	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58	Dec. '99	.....	.....	.....
268	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	27	Jun1900	.....	.....	13 75
269	1	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	33	"	25 25	.....	10 25
270	4	4	8	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	67	"	.....	.....	.....
271	5	6	9	.....	3	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	50	"	.....	.....	46 50
272	12	9	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	62	"	3 00	.....	48 00
273	5	4	3	.....	3	1	5	.....	.....	.....	61	"	.....	.....	64 75
274	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	23	"	.....	.....	29 75
275	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	28	Dec. '99	.....	.....	19 60
276	3	2	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	Jun1900	.....	8 00	60 50
277	3	3	3	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	"	.....	.....	34 00
278	5	5	3	1	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	61	"	.....	3 00	37 25
279	4	1	.....	2	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	60	"	.....	.....	34 50
280	1	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	39 00
281	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	Dec. '99	.....	.....	27 25
282	5	4	3	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	100	Jun1900	.....	.....	51 50
283	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	"	.....	.....	24 75
284	6	5	3	1	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	106	"	.....	8 00	69 25
285	3	2	2	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	48	"	.....	.....	35 50
286	4	4	6	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	40 25
287	1	1	1	.....	2	1	3	.....	.....	.....	28	June '99	4 00	.....	26 00
288	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	29	Jun1900	.....	.....	28 25
289	5	5	5	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	33 75
290	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	"	2 00	.....	29 50
291	7	8	6	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	26 75
292	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	17 75
293	7	7	7	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	35	"	.....	.....	20 75
294	7	6	5	2	2	1	3	.....	.....	.....	102	"	34 50	.....	68 00
295	2	2	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	"	.....	2 00	28 50
296	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	"	.....	.....	15 00
297	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	Dec. '98	.....	.....	24 25
298	1	1	1	7	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	Jun1900	.....	.....	46 50
299	1	1	1	2	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	37	"	0 50	.....	19 50
300	6	7	4	.....	2	2	12	.....	.....	.....	42	Dec. '99	2 00	.....	46 50
301	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33	June '99	.....	.....	8 25
302	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	Dec. '99	.....	.....	37 00
303	8	6	6	.....	1	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	50	Jun1900	2 00	.....	37 50
304	6	6	6	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	58	"	.....	.....	46 50
305	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	"	.....	.....	15 00
306	13	4	3	2	2	.....	2	.....	.....	1	143	"	124 25	.....	14 50
307	2	2	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	June '99	2 00	.....	27 00
308	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	Jun1900	.....	.....	25 50
309	2	2	2	.....	2	1	1	.....	.....	1	33	"	.....	.....	64 00
310	3	3	3	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	17 75
311	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	79	"	.....	.....	51 25
312	9	8	6	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58	"	.....	.....	3 50
313	14	13	14	6	5	3	3	.....	.....	1	256	"	7 25	.....	233 50
314	5	5	2	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	"	1 50	.....	17 00
315	28	31	29	6	8	2	7	.....	.....	.....	314	"	80 50	.....	125 25
316	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	June '99	.....	.....	14 00
317	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	Dec. '99	.....	.....	16 50
318	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	62	Jun1900	.....	.....	27 50
319	6	6	6	2	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	86	"	.....	20 00	58 25
320	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	June '99	2 00	.....	11 50
321	13	16	14	1	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	148	Jun1900	.....	.....	128 25
322	7	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	36 50
323	8	8	.....	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	1	45	"	19 00	.....	37 25

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1900, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
336	aHighgate	Highgate	F. on or b.f.m	Jonas Gosnell	Sol. Gosnell
337	aMyrtle	Pt. Robinson	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Camp	Thos. Sowersby
338	aDufferin	Wellandport	Tu.on or b.f.m	M. H. Prentiss	D. C. Holmes
339	aOrient	Toronto	1st Tuesday	C. A. J. Farquhar	F. H. Anderson
341	aBruce	Tiverton	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. M. Bowie	J. S. Evans
343	aGeorgina	Toronto	1st Saturday	W. M. Grant	J. M. Sumner
344	aMerrill	Dorch't r's'n	Th.on or b.f.m	John Sharp	W. H. Shaw
345	aNilestown	Nilestown	Tu.on or b.f.m	T. T. McDougal	J. McDougall
346	aThe Occident	Toronto	3d Wednesday	John Muir	John Lillie
347	aMercer	Fergus	1st Friday	Jas. J. Craig	James Beattie
348	aGeorgian	Pen'tang'h'e	1st Thursday	B. S. Kenney	G. H. Wright
352	aGranite	Parry Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Edwin Pirie	D. Macfarlane
354	aBrock	Cannington	W. on or b.f.m	H. D. Talbot	Joseph A. Kift
356	aRiver Park	Streetville	Tu. on or b.f.m	Fred. A. Brown	Wm. Taylor
357	aWaterdown	Millgrove	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. E. Smith	Robt. Platt
358	aDelaware Valley	Delaware	F. on or b.f.m	Sam Lewis	J. A. Tiffany
359	aVittoria	Vittoria	F. on or b.f.m	B. W. McCall	John Pow
361	aMuskoka	Bracebridge	Tu. on or b.f.m	Chas. G. Mills	Isaac Huber
361	aWaverley	Guelph	4th Monday	W. A. Clark	W. E. Buckingham
362	aMaple Leaf	Tara	M. on or b.f.m	J. A. McDonald	A. McCollough
364	aDufferin	Melbourne	W. on or b.f.m	H. W. Sussex	John Cooper
367	aSt. George	Toronto	1st Friday	John Drew	R. C. Gallagher
368	aSalem	Brookville	2nd Monday	W. H. Mowat	E. A. Geiger
369	aMimico	Lambton M.	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. B. Nice	John A. Tyers
370	aHarmony	Delta	W. on or b.f.m	D. A. Coon, M. D.	J. W. Russell
371	aPrince of Wales	Ottawa	4th Friday	John Wilson	John B. Wright
372	aPalmer	Bridgeburg	Tu. on or a.f.m	H. Robbins	J. G. Watts
373	aCopestone	Welland	1st Thursday	G. W. Sutherland	Thomas Main
374	aKeene	Keene	Th. on or b.f.m	Rev. J. Burrell	J. M. Shaw, M.D.
375	aLorne	Onesmee	1st Thursday	J. J. Morgan	Hugh Murray
376	aUnity	Huntsville	2d Wednesday	D. M. Grant	George Walton
377	aLorne	Shelburne	1st Friday	J. P. Marshall	Chas. Mason
378	aKing Solomon's	London West	2nd Thursday	John Kelly	W. Nichol
379	aMiddlesex	Bryanston	W. on or b.f.m	Paul Broome	Wm. Simbert
380	aUnion	London	2nd Monday	R. D. A. Hillier	Jos. Ward
382	aDoric	Hamilton	3rd Monday	F. L. Nash	C. V. Emory, M.D.
383	aHenderson	W. Winch'ter	1st Tuesday	S. S. Reveller	G. Johnson
384	aAlpha	Toronto	1st Thursday	Robt. Ross	E. J. Voss
385	aSpry	Beeton	W. on or a.f.m	G. E. Reynolds	J. M. Pissons
386	aMcColl	West Lorne	Tu. on or b.f.m	Daniel McKillop	W. A. Becker
387	aLansdowne	Lansdowne	Th. on or b.f.m	M. R. McDonald	Rev. C. J. Young
388	aHenderson	Ilderton	M. on or b.f.m	E. Ironside	T. E. Slack
389	aCrystal Fountain	N. Augusta	W. on or b.f.m	W. H. Waddell, M.D.	G. W. Chapman
390	aFlorence	Florence	Th. on or b.f.m	W. J. Bodkin	J. D. McMillan
391	aHoward	Ridgetown	M. on or b.f.m	E. Porter	W. H. Ellsworth
392	aHuron	Camlachie	W. on or b.f.m	C. O. Trusler	A. Trusler
393	aForest	Chesley	1st Tuesday	W. T. Ross	John R. Steele
394	aKing Solomon	Thamesford	W. on or b.f.m	L. W. Beavens	Jas. Clubb
395	aParvaim	Comber	Fri. on or b.f.m	C. W. Scherer	P. A. Flaherty
396	aCedar	Warton	Tu. on or b.f.m	Chas. N. Shaw	S. E. Foster
397	aLeopold	Bridgen	Wed b.f.m	James Smith	H. J. Leacock
398	aVictoria	Kirkfield	W. on or b.f.m	Ed. Mosgrove	Jos. McClelland
399	aMoffat	Harrietsville	W. on or b.f.m	D. D. York	Thos. McKee
400	aOakville	Oakville	Tu. on or b.f.m	James C. Ford	C. A. Bra bury
401	aCraig	Deseronto	1st Tuesday	W. D. McRae	Geo. D. Aldred
402	aCentral	Essex	W. on or b.f.m	J. W. Brien	A. O. Stimers
403	aWindsor	Windsor	1st Friday	Fi z. Bridges	Jas. C. Guillet
404	aLorne	Tamworth	F. on or a.f.m	John McKnight	Jas. Aylesworth
405	aMattawa	Mattawa	1st Tuesday	R. Shanks	C. W. Haentschel
406	aThe Spry	Fenel'n Falls	W. on or b.f.m	H. H. Graham	Rev. W. Farncomb
408	aMurray	Beaverton	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. Williamson	F. S. King
409	aGolden Rule	Gravenhurst	M. on or b.f.m	W. W. Winfield	A. A. Moury
410	aZeta	Toronto	4th Friday	T. G. Malcolm	J. F. Faulds
411	aRodney	Rodney	W. on or b.f.m	Thos. Busby	T. W. Kirpatrick
412	aKeystone	S. St. Marie	Tu. on or b.f.m	J. B. Way	C. V. Campbell
413	aNaphtali	Tilby Cent'e	Tu. on or b.f.m	Richard Carless	W. A. Hutton

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1900.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rec'd	Total Memb's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
336	1	1	1		1					1	21	Dec. '98	\$ 45 25		\$ 31 00
337	8	3	3								20	Dec. '98	3 00		
338	19	13	10	5	1	6	4			9	24	Jun 1900	19 50		13 25
341	1	1	1								37	"	1 50		166 25
343	21	18	23	7	4		3			1	210	"	1 00		25 00
344					1						29	"			173 50
345	2	2	2		1		1				28	"			17 75
346	10	11	14	2	7	2	2			2	153	"			11 00
347	4	1	1	3	4		13			4	33	"			118 00
348	8	8	7		1	1	1			2	27	Dec. '99	1 00		56 50
352	7	5	3		2	2	2				64	Jun 1900			55 00
351	2	2	2	1	1		2			1	53	"		1 00	36 25
356	2	2	2		1	1				2	36	"	1 00		27 00
357	3	3	2		1	1				1	45	Jun '99		2 00	19 75
358					2					2	40	Jun 1900	21 50		20 50
359	1	3	3			1					37	"		2 00	29 25
360	1				3					1	38	"		1 00	21 75
361	11	11	11	1	4	1				3	98	"		2 00	96 75
362	3	3	3		7						41	"			28 75
364											34	June '98	72 50		
367	16	16	17	2	4	1	3			3	152	Jun 19 0			115 00
368	2	1	1	3	4	2	1			1	90	"			51 75
369	5	5	3								61	"			49 00
370				1						1	65	Dec. '99		2 10	192 75
371	8	7	7	3		1	3				74	Jun 1900		3 75	53 75
372	7	4	6	2							55	"			39 75
373	4	4	3		1			1			31	"	1 50		33 75
374	1	1	1								28	"			14 25
375	3	3	2								39	Dec. '99	38 00		60 00
376	2	3	2	1						1	75	Jun 1900		14 00	42 00
377	4	5	4		1		2				54	"			40 00
378	4	3	2			2	3			1	60	"			48 50
379	3	3	2	1	1						30	Dec. '99			25 50
380	19	15	17	1	1	2	8			4	118	"	10 00		108 25
382	8	11	10		5	2	12				140	"	1 50		113 00
383	2	3	4		3		4				48	Jun 1900			47 25
384	11	8	8	7	6	1	2			2	201	"			179 75
385	1	1	1	3	1						33	"			10 75
386	3	3	4			1	1				39	"	24 50		25 00
387	3	1	1		2		1			1	19	"	27 25		
388	5	3		1			1				40	"	5 00		23 00
389					1						38	"			23 50
390	1	1	3	1							28	"			32 50
391	5	5	5		1						63	"			39 50
392	6	4	5	1	1						66	"			35 75
393	3	3	2								32	Dec. '99	32 00		
394	4	5	4	1	1		1				60	Jun 1900		4 50	41 75
395		1	1	1							42	Dec. '99			49 75
396	10	8	9	1	2					1	75	Jun 1900		4 00	83 75
397	4	4	5	1	3						47	"			37 50
398	3	2			1						32	"			15 75
399	3	2	4		2		2			1	21	"		2 00	33 50
400											24	June '99			45 00
401	2	4	3		1	1				1	56	Jun 1900			64 75
402	6	5	4	3	1					1	59	"			40 75
403	26	25	20	3	3		5			1	128	"			120 00
404	3	3	3	5	1						41	"		2 00	21 50
405	7	4	7		3		5				76	"			66 50
406	3	4	3		2		1				39	"	20 00		34 75
408	1			1		2	1				32	"			34 75
409	7	5	4	3	1	1					41	"			32 25
410	13	13	8	2	3		3			4	114	"			110 00
411											37	June '99			38 25
412	5	6	9	1	3		6			2	82	Jun 1900			60 25
413	5	4	2		6						60	"	55 00		26 00

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1900, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
414	Pequonga.....	Rat Portage	1st Wednesday	James Sherman	G. R. Wood.....
415	Fort William.....	Fort William	W. on or b.f.m	C. H. Jackson	Wm. Western
416	Lyn.....	Lyn	W. on or b.f.m	A. E. Cumming	Maurice Br wn
417	Keewatin.....	Keewat'n Mis	1st Friday.....	John McLeod	A. J. Holmes.....
418	Maxville.....	Maxville.....	2nd Tuesday...	T. W. Munro	D. F. McDermid
419	Bismarck.....	Pt. Edward...	2nd Monday...	J. W. Johnson	E. F. George.....
420	Nipissing.....	North Bay...	2nd Thursday	Henry D. Leask	Jas. McKenna.....
421	Scott.....	Grand Valley	W. on or b.f.m	R. F. Taylor.....	J. E. McIntyre, As
422	Star of the East	Bothwell.....	W. on or b.f.m	Sm'l F. Patterson	C. E. Bailey.....
423	Strong.....	Sundridge.....	3d Wednesday	A. J. Whitby	A. A. Anderson.....
424	Doric.....	Pickering.....	Th. on or b.f.m	R. A. Bunting	R. M. Stewart.....
425	St. Clair.....	Bombra.....	Tu. on or b.f.m	Henry Roebuck	T. C. Cowan, M.D.
426	Stanley.....	W. Tor Junc	1st Tuesday...	A. J. Anderson	A. H. Royce.....
427	Nickel.....	Sudbury.....	1st Wednesday	R. H. Arthur	Chris. K. Reid.....
428	Fidelity.....	Port Perry...	F. on or b.f.m	Jas. Swan	Win. Spencer.....
429	Port Elgin.....	Port Elgin...	Th. on or b.f.m	W. J. Cameron	J. T. Lillie.....
430	Acacia.....	East Toronto	3rd Monday...	W. Fitzpatrick...	H. A. Giles.....
431	Moravian.....	Eden Grove...	F. on or s. f.m	Thos. Pinkerton	Wilson Clark.....
432	Hanover.....	Hanover.....	F. on or b.f.m	J. S. Knechtel...	J. Sutherland.....
433	Bonnechere.....	Eganville.....	2nd Monday...	Edward Wood...	Jas. D. Lea h.....
434	Algonquin.....	Emsdale.....	Tu. on or a.f.m	R. McKonkey...	J. O. Adams.....
435	Havelock.....	Havelock.....	F. on or b.f.m	W. S. Dodd.....	T. J. Bate r.....
436	Burns.....	Hepworth.....	Tu. on or a.f.m	R. S. Russell...	John Sutherby...
437	Tuscan.....	Barnia.....	3d Wednesday	Alex. Kidd.....	F. G. Winlow.....
438	Harmony.....	Toronto.....	4th Monday...	W. H. Shaw.....	T. G. Eagan.....
439	Alexandria.....	Alexandria...	1st Wednesday	John Simpson...	S. F. B. Reid.....
440	Arcadia.....	Minden.....	F. on or b.f.m	A. H. Brandon...	W. S. Munn.....
441	Westport.....	Westport.....	1st Friday.....	Robt. Fl-gg.....	J. E. Whaley.....
442	Dymont.....	Thessalon...	Th on or b.f.m	A. E. Dymont...	Fred. Leighfield
443	Powassan.....	Powassan.....	2nd Friday...	A. Oldfield.....	D. Carmichael...
444	Nitetis.....	Creemore.....	Tu. on or a.f.m	G. E. J. Brown...	Joseph Hood.....
445	Lake of the Woods	Rat Portage	2nd Wednesday	D. F. Ferguson...	W. Robertson...
446	Granite.....	Fort Frances	Tu. on or b.f.m	C. J. Hollands...	H. J. F. Sissons...
447	Sturgeon Falls.....	Sturgeon Fl's	2nd Monday...	W. Anderson.....	A. Bridgman.....

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1900.—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	With- drawn.	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total M' m's	Last Ret'ns	Ledger.		Paid Grand Lodge.
													Dr. Bal.	Cr. Bal.	
414	13	11	10	3	3	2				1	96	Jun1900		1 75	192 10
415	13	12	11	2	7	1	4				55	"			47 00
416	1										26				18 50
417		1	1								50	Dec. '99			36 00
418	6	7	5	1	4	1				1	51	Jun1900			42 00
419	6	5	4				5				73	"			43 75
420	8	7	9	2	2	1	16			2	77	"		2 00	61 75
421	2	3	2	1	3						55	"			56 50
422	7	5	5								45				40 00
423			1								43	Dec. '99		2 00	37 25
424	4	3	4				1	1		2	36	Jun1900			26 50
425	5	4	4			1					43	"			23 75
426	15	11	13	2						1	146	"			99 75
427	16	17	12		4					3	101	"	47 50		76 00
428	7	7	6		2	1					55	"			42 25
429	2	2	3	1	1	1				40		"		2 00	39 25
430	3	3	2	3			3			1	74	"			77 75
431	2	2	1	1	4						41				31 00
432	9	8	7		1						37	Dec. '99			22 50
433	7	7	6		2						38	Jun1900			34 50
434	2	5	6		2						40	"			47 00
435	2	4	5								53	Dec. '99			23 75
436	7	3	2		2						30	Jun1900			53 25
437	14	10	11		1						60	"			53 00
438	10	8	5	1	2		11				14	Dec. '99			75 50
439	3	1	2	2	2	1					136	Jun1900			55 25
440	6	6	5		3		1				34	"			33 00
441	1	1	1		1						28	"			34 50
442	5	4	3		2						48	Dec. '99		2 00	26 50
443	2	1	1	1							26	Jun1900			49 75
444	4	3	3								27	"	5 50		14 50
445	1	1	2	2							25	"			37 50
446	10	11	9	6	3						40	"			66 00
447	8	1									65	"			20 00
												Inter'st Gen'l Fund...			3900 77
												" Asy'm "			435 00
												P. M. Certifi- cates....			5 00
												Dispen- sations			61 00
												Miscel- laneous			8 50
													2016 25	138 75	22413 77

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

LIST OF LODGES—BY DISTRICTS.

ERIE DISTRICT, NO. 1. (22.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Rev. W. H. Jamieson, D. D., Blenheim.

No. 34, Thistle.....	Amherstburg	No. 327, The Hammond...	Wardsville
" 41, St. George.....	Kingsville	" 336, Highgate.....	Highgate
" 46, Wellington.....	Chatham	" 386, McColl.....	West Lorne
" 47, Great Western.....	Windsor	" 390, Florence.....	Florence
" 245, Tecumseh.....	Thamesville	" 391, Howard.....	Ridgetown
" 256, Sydenham.....	Dresden	" 395, Parvaim.....	Comber
" 267, Parthenon.....	Chatham	" 402, Central.....	St. George
" 274, Kent.....	Blenheim	" 403, Windsor.....	Windsor
" 288, Lorne.....	Glencoe	" 411, Rodney.....	Rodney
" 290, Leamington.....	Leamington	" 413, Naphtali.....	Tilbury Centre
" 312, Pnyx.....	Wallaceburg	" 423, Star of the East.....	Bothwell

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 2. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Albert W. Parks, Oil Springs.

No. 56, Victoria.....	Sarnia	No. 294, Moore.....	Courtright
" 61, St. John's.....	Mt. Brydges	" 307, Arkona.....	Arkona
" 83, Beaver.....	Strathroy	" 323, Alvinston.....	Alvinston
" 116, Cassia.....	Thedford	" 328, Ionic.....	Napier
" 153, Burns.....	Wyoming	" 364, Dufferin.....	Melbourne
" 158, Alexandra.....	Oil Springs	" 392, Huron.....	Cambridge
" 194, Petrolia.....	Petrolia	" 397, Leopold.....	Brigden
" 238, Havelock.....	Watford	" 419, Bismarck.....	Point Edward
" 260, Washington.....	Petrolia	" 425, St. Clair.....	Sombra
" 263, Forest.....	Forest	" 437, Tuscan.....	Sarnia

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 3. (26.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. John Thornicroft, Lambeth.

No. 20, St. John's.....	London	No. 299, Doric.....	Lobo
" 42, St. George's.....	London	" 300, Mt. Olivet.....	Thorndale
" 44, St. Thomas.....	St. Thomas	" 302, St. David's.....	St. Thomas
" 64, Kilwinning.....	London	" 330, Corinthian.....	London East
" 94, St. Mark's.....	Port Stanley	" 344, Merrill.....	Dorchester Station
" 107, St. Paul's.....	Lambeth	" 345, Nilestown.....	Nilestown
" 120, Warren.....	Fingal	" 358, Delaware Valley.....	Delaware
" 140, Malahide.....	Aylmer	" 378, King Solomon's.....	London W
" 171, Prince of Wales.....	Lawrence	" 379, Middlesex.....	Bryanston
" 190, Belmont.....	Belmont	" 380, Union.....	London
" 195, Tuscan.....	London	" 388, Henderson.....	Ilderton
" 209a, St. John's.....	London	" 394, King Solomon.....	Thamesford
" 232, Cameron.....	Dutton	" 399, Moffat.....	Harrietsville

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4. (15.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. D. E. Monroe, Auburn.

No. 33, Maitland.....	Goderich	No. 305, New Domini'n.....	New Hamb'n
" 73, St. James.....	St. Mary's	" 324, Zurich.....	Hensall
" 84, Clinton.....	Clinton	" 333, Doric.....	Park Hill
" 133, Lebanon Forest.....	Exeter	" 303, Blyth.....	Blyth
" 141, Tudor.....	Mitchell	" 309, Morning Star.....	Smith's Hill
" 144, Tecumseh.....	Stratford	" 318, Wilmot.....	Baden
" 154, Irving.....	Lucan	" 332, Stratford.....	Stratford
" 170, Britannia.....	Seaforth		

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5. (10.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. James H. Scott, Kincardine.

No. 93, Northern Light.....	Kincardine	No. 331, Fordwich.....	Fordwich
" 131, St. Lawrence.....	Southampton	" 341, Bruce.....	Tiverton
" 162, Forest.....	Wroxeter	" 362, Maple Leaf.....	Tara
" 184, Old Light.....	Lucknow	" 393, Forest.....	Chealey
" 197, Saugeen.....	Walkerton	" 396, Cedar.....	Wiarton
" 225, Bernard.....	Listowel	" 429, Port Elgin.....	Port Elgin
" 235, Aldworth.....	Paisley	" 431, Moravian.....	Eden Grove
" 276, Teeswater.....	Teeswater	" 432, Hanover.....	Hanover
" 284, St. John's.....	Brussels	" 436, Burns.....	Hepworth
" 286, Wingham.....	Wingham		

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WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. James Smiley, Paris.

No. 10, Norfolk.....	Simcoe	No. 149, Erie.....	Port Dover
" 37, King Hiram.....	Ingersoll	" 174, Walsingham.....	Port Rowan
" 43, King Solomon.....	Woodstock	" 178, Flatville.....	Flatville
" 68, St. John's.....	Ingersoll	" 181, Oriental.....	Port Burwell
" 76, Oxford.....	Woodstock	" 193, Scotland.....	Scotland
" 78, King Hiram.....	Tilsenburgh	" 217, Frederick.....	Delhi
" 82, St. John's.....	Paris	" 237, Vienna.....	Vienna
" 104, St. John's.....	Norwich	" 250, Thistle.....	Embro
" 166, Burford.....	Burford	" 261, Oak Branch.....	Innerkip
" 108, Btenheim.....	Princeton	" 359, Victoria.....	Vittoria
" 113, Wilson.....	Waterford		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. William Cowan, Galt.

No. 72, Alma.....	Galt	No. 279, New Hope.....	Hespeler
" 151, The Grand River.....	Berlin	" 285, Conestogo.....	Drayton
" 272, Ayr.....	Ayr	" 287, Preston.....	Preston
" 180, Speed.....	Guelph	" 306, Durham.....	Durham
" 230, St. Alban's.....	Mount Forest	" 314, Blair.....	Palmerston
" 233, Irvine.....	Elora	" 315, Clifford.....	Clifford
" 216, Harris.....	Orangeville	" 334, Prince Arthur.....	Arthur
" 237, Galt.....	Galt	" 347, Mercer.....	Fergus
" 258, Guelph.....	Guelph	" 361, Waverley.....	Guelph
" 262, Harriston.....	Harriston	" 421, Scott.....	Grand Valley
" 271, Wellington.....	Erin		

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. William Birrell, Hamilton.

No. 6, The Baron.....	Hamilton	No. 166, Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek
" 27, Strict Observance.....	Hamilton	" 219, Credit.....	Georgetown
" 40, St. John's.....	Hamilton	" 243, St. George.....	St. George
" 45, Brant.....	Brantford	" 272, Seymour.....	Ancaster
" 57, Harmony.....	Binbrook	" 291, Dufferin.....	West Flamboro'
" 61, Acacia.....	Hamilton	" 321, Walker.....	Acton West
" 62, St. Andrew's.....	Caledonia	" 324, Temple.....	Hamilton
" 100, Valley.....	Dundas	" 357, Waterdown.....	Millgrove
" 121, Doric.....	Brantford	" 382, Doric.....	Hamilton
" 133, St. Clair.....	Milton	" 400, Oakville.....	Oakville
" 163, Burlington.....	Burlington		

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Alfred Orten, Bradford.

No. 73, Simcoe.....	Bradford	No. 266, Northern Light.....	Stayner
" 83, St. George's.....	Owen Sound	" 285, Seven Star.....	Alliston
" 90, Manito.....	Collingwood	" 304, Minerva.....	Stroud
" 96, Corinthian.....	Barrie	" 322, North Star.....	Owen Sound
" 137, Pythagoras.....	Meaford	" 333, Prince Arthur.....	Flesherton
" 192, Orillia.....	Orillia	" 348, Georgian.....	Penetanguishene
" 230, Kerr.....	Barrie	" 377, Lorne.....	Shelburne
" 234, Beaver.....	Clarksburg	" 385, Fry.....	Beeton
" 236, Manitoba.....	Cookstown	" 444, Nitelus.....	Creemore
" 249, Caledonian.....	Midland		

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. T. A. Simpson, Beamsville.

No. 2, Niagara.....	Niagara	No. 221, Mountain.....	Thorold
" 7, Union.....	Grimsby	" 254, Clifton.....	Niagara
" 15, St. George's.....	St. Catharines	" 277, Seymour.....	Port Dalhousie
" 32, Amity.....	Dunnville	" 296, Temple.....	St. Catharines
" 35, St. John's.....	Oayuga	" 319, Hiram.....	Hagersville
" 168, Maple Leaf.....	St. Catharines	" 329, King Solomon.....	Jarvis
" 105, St. Mark's.....	Drummondville	" 337, Myrtle.....	Port Robinson
" 115, Ivy.....	Beamsville	" 338, Dufferin.....	Wellandport
" 168, Merritt.....	Welland	" 372, Palmer.....	Bridgeburg
" 169, Macnab.....	Port Colborne	" 373, Copestone.....	Welland
" 185, Enniskillen.....	York		

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT NO. 11. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. W. H. McFadden, Brampton.

No. 22, King Solomon's.....Toronto	No. 302, Robertson.....Nobleton
" 54, Vaughan.....Maple	" 305, Humber.....Weston
" 65, Rehoboth.....Toronto	" 311, Blackwood.....Woodbridge
" 86, Wilson.....Toronto	" 325, Zetland.....Toronto
" 98, True Blue.....Bolton	" 346, Occident.....Toronto
" 118, Union.....Schomberg	" 356, River Park.....Streetsville
" 156, York.....North Toronto	" 369, Mimico.....Lambton Mills
" 229, Ionic.....Brampton	" 384, Alpha.....Toronto
" 247, Ashlar.....Toronto	" 426, Stanley.....Toronto Junction
" 265, Patterson.....Thornhill	" 438, Harmony.....Toronto

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT NO. 11a. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. H. J. Gould, Uxbridge.

No. 16, St. Andrew's.....Toronto	No. 220, Zeredatha.....Uxbridge
" 23, Richmond.....Richmond Hill	" 169, Brougham Union.....Brougham
" 25, Ionic.....Toronto	" 316, Doric.....Toronto
" 75, St. John's.....Toronto	" 339, Orient.....Toronto
" 87, Markham Union.....Markham	" 343, Georgina.....Toronto
" 97, Sharon.....Sharon	" 354, Brock.....Cannington
" 99, Tuscan.....Newmarket	" 367, St. George.....Toronto
" 122, The Rising Sun.....Aurora	" 410, Zeta.....Toronto
" 136, Richardson.....Stouffville	" 424, Doric.....Pickering
" 218, Stevenson.....Toronto	" 430, Acacia.....East Toronto

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12. (24.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. G. H. Linton, Orono.

No. 26, Ontario.....Port Hope	No. 268, Verulam.....Bobcaygeon
" 30, Composite.....Whitby	" 270, Cedar.....Oshawa
" 31, Jerusalem.....Bowmanville	" 313, Clementi.....Lakesfield
" 39, Mount Zion.....Brooklin	" 325, Orono.....Orono
" 66, Durham.....Newcastle	" 374, Keene.....Keene
" 77, Faithful Brethren.....Lindsay	" 375, Lorne.....Oranmore
" 101, Corinthian.....Peterborough	" 398, Victoria.....Kirkfield
" 114, Hope.....Port Hope	" 406, The Spry.....Fenelon Falls
" 139, Lebanon.....Oshawa	" 408, Murray.....Beaverton
" 145, J. B. Hall.....Millbrook	" 428, Fidelity.....Port Perry
" 155, Peterborough.....Peterborough	" 435, Havelock.....Havelock
" 223, Norwood.....Norwood	" 440, Arcadia.....Minden

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. N. A. Bonesteel, Frankford

No. 11, Moira.....Belleville	No. 125, Golden Rule.....Camptellford
" 17, St. John's.....Cobourg	" 127, Franck.....Frankford
" 18, Prince Edward.....Picton	" 161, Percy.....Warkworth
" 29, United.....Brighton	" 164, Star in the East.....Wellington
" 38, Trent.....Trenton	" 215, Lake.....Ameliasburg
" 48, Madoc.....Madoc	" 222, Marmora.....Marmora
" 50, Consecon.....Consecon	" 239, Tweed.....Tweed
" 69, Stirling.....Stirling	" 283, Eureka.....Belleville
" 91, Colborne.....Colborne	" 401, Craig.....Deseronto
" 123, The Belleville.....Belleville	

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14. (14.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. A. Shaw, Kingston.

No. 3, The Anc't St. John's.....Kingston	No. 201, Leeds.....Gananoque
" 9, Union.....Napanea	" 212, Elysian.....Garden Island
" 92, Cataraqui.....Kingston	" 228, Prince Arthur.....Odessa
" 109, Albion.....Harrowsmith	" 253, Minden.....Kingston
" 119, Maple Leaf.....Bath	" 299, Victoria.....Centerville
" 146, Prince of Wales.....Newburgh	" 404, Lorne.....Fairworth
" 157, Simpson.....Newboro'	" 441, Westport.....Westport

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT. No. 15. (23.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. A. D. Cameron, Lancaster.

No. 5, Sussex.....	Brockville	No. 242, Macoy.....	Mallorytown
" 14, True Britons.....	Perth	" 256, Farran's Point.....	Farran's Pt
" 24, St. Francis.....	Smith's Falls	" 320, Chesterville.....	Chesterville
" 98, Mount Zion.....	Kemptville	" 368, Salem.....	Brockville
" 55, Merrickville.....	Merrickville	" 370, Harmony.....	Delta
" 74, St. James.....	Bethel	" 383, Henderson West.....	Winchester
" 85, Rising Sun.....	Farmersville	" 347, Lansdowne.....	Lansdowne
" 110, Central.....	Prescott	" 389, Crystal Fountain.....	N. Augusta
" 125, Cornwall.....	Cornwall	" 416, Lyn.....	Lyn
" 142, Excelsior.....	Morrisburg	" 418, Maxville.....	Maxville
" 143, Friendly Brothers.....	Iroquois	" 439, Alexandria.....	Alexandria
" 207, Lancaster.....	Lancaster		

OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 16. (18.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. John Robertson, Ottawa.

No. 21a, St. John's.....	Vanleek Hill	No. 177, The Builders'.....	Ottawa
" 52, Dalhousie.....	Ottawa	" 186, Plantagenet.....	Plantagenet
" 58, Doric.....	Ottawa	" 196, Madawaaka.....	Arnprior
" 63, St. John's.....	Carleton Place	" 202, Kvergreen.....	Lanark
" 192, Renfrew.....	Renfrew	" 231, Lodge of Fidelity.....	Ottawa
" 128, Pembroke.....	Pembroke	" 264, Chaudiere.....	Ottawa
" 147, Mississippi.....	Almonte	" 371, Prince of Wales.....	Ottawa
" 146, Civil Service.....	Ottawa	" 405, Mattawa.....	Mattawa
" 159, Goodwood.....	Richmond	" 433, Bonnechere.....	Eganville

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 17. (8.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. A. McCrossan, Rat Portage.

No. 237, Shuniah.....	Port Arthur	No. 417, Keewatin.....	Keewatin
" 412, Key Stone.....	Sault Ste Marie	" 442, Dymont.....	Thesalon
" 414, Pequonga.....	Rat Portage	" 445, Lake of the Woods.....	Rat Portage
" 415, Fort William.....	Fort William	" 446, Granite.....	Fort Frances

NIPISSING DISTRICT No. 18. (10.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. G. W. Liddle, North Bay.

No. 352, Granite.....	Parry Sound	No. 423, Strong.....	Sundridge
" 360, Muskoka.....	Bracebridge	" 427, Nickel.....	Sudbury
" 376, Unity.....	Huntsville	" 434, Algonquin.....	Emmendale
" 409, Golden Rule.....	Gravenhurst	" 443, Powassan.....	Powassan
" 420, Nipissing.....	North Bay	" 447, Sturgeon Falls.....	Sturgeon Falls

NOT ATTACHED TO ANY DISTRICT.

No. 293, The Royal Solomon Mother, Jerusalem, Palestine.

RECAPITULATION.

Erie	District No. 1.....	22 Lodges
St. Clair	" 2.....	20 "
London	" 3.....	26 "
South Huron	" 4.....	15 "
North Huron	" 5.....	19 "
Wilcon	" 6.....	21 "
Wellington	" 7.....	21 "
Hamilton	" 8.....	21 "
Georgian	" 9.....	19 "
Niagara	" 10.....	21 "
Toronto West	" 11.....	20 "
Toronto East	" 11a.....	20 "
Ontario	" 12.....	24 "
Prince Edward	" 13.....	19 "
Frontenac	" 14.....	14 "
St. Lawrence	" 15.....	23 "
Ottawa	" 16.....	18 "
Algoma	" 17.....	8 "
Nipissing	" 18.....	10 "
Unattached	.....	1 "
Total.....		369

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE, 1900.

No. 86, 325, 410—Thomas Sargent. No. 222—Donat'd Clark.

SUSPENSIONS FOR U. M. C., 1890-1900.

No. 22—A E McDonald. 123—Richard Waters. 237—J H Willard. 373—Chas Hearn.

SUSPENSIONS FOR N. P. D., 1890-1900.

No. 3—Jas Yule, Hugh Lawson. 5—C W Bullock, J H Carnegie, N Comsit, H C Gates, T E I win, A H Laughlin, G A McMullen, P J Pack, C R McWilliams, H L Perkins, F M Tanager, J A Urquhart. 6—W R Fray. 9—S J Asselstine, N J Sanford, A Henry, H L Lennox. 14—R Bourke, G Bond, G R McCarthy, W J Dixon. 16—S Paterson. 20—T Boswell, H A Winnett, M E Neugent, J B Luney, A M Olegb, J B Hodgins, W A Brock, W H Oke, A McFadden, F Hazelgrove. 22—G R Breckham, J McF Kerr, A Mathews, W H Hoskins, G A Lowe, J H Powers. 25—W C Bounell, Wm Fair. 23—M G Lynde, S Thompson, A H Manning, J F Nattrass, H H Jones. 27—J C Campbell. 30—J H Greenwood, R L Wolfenden. 37—W C Noxon, J Vance, W H Fowler. A J Clark, L Chapman, J F Williams, A McCarter, G F Clark, C D Weatherall, S King, T H Webb, J Poduon. 40—A W Ardiel, W H Brown, T G Carroll, D Mavor, W G McAndrew, C Wilson. 42—W Reed, W Webb, J L Fitzgerald. 44—S Carpenter, R B Beattie, D D Long, R A Clark, C Dempsey, A L Merrill, E Moore, T A Parish, J E Slaght. 45—A C Bowers, J Deaton, B Puschinsky, W E Winstel, J W Patte. 46—J R Johnson, E S Bedford, W J Nash. 47—G Beane, T Robinson, E McKee, G Jackson. 48—S Sargent. 52—E Bullis, L Booth, J R Douglass, J A Gravelle, W H King, J Ogilvie, C A Olmsted, W L Wagener. 58—C Aird, C P Dewar. 6—F G Kirk, J Purvis. 62—W Galer, J Logan. 63—J G McIntosh, F Fisher. 64—J H Monaghan. 65—A B Acheson, W H Coleman, R Ferguson, E H Laughnam, C M Larson, J McFaul, R J Nicholls, A T Kamage, W H Smith, D H Watt. 73—S L Robinson, J W Purdy. 76—F L Sanagan, W L McKay. 78—J Hauey, J Hutchison, F R Foster, S Cowan, J Crane. 81—W Harrison, J Weeks. 85—T E Connors. 86—A Callou. 9—Jas Morrow, N J Cole. 92—J A Charles. 101—B M Eden. 103—S Montgomery, A W McMaugh, R W Lawrie, J Arbutnot, G C I, Miller, J Housberger, G E Wand, F J Montgomery. 104—D F Bungey. 110—Robt McGoory. 113—A M Garbea, R W Trotter, G A Morita, W C Woodard, J W Merrill. 114—J Palmer. 115—M Linnen, J Keith, O E Henry, W Williams. 118—J S Hughes. 121—J E Alford, D Bladell, G W Elliott, F Grobb, F Leeming, E Paterson, J W Roswell, F G E Rodgers, J T Slater, R Storey, J T Storey, H Wilcox, W F Templar, Hy Storey. 128—A L Aubin, Geo Carr, J J Gourley, A H Horn, D Holt, W R Kelly, Jas Miller, A Martel. 133—J Dauncey. 139—T May, J A Douglass, S A McFarlane. 140—T Brightey, C H Kimball. 141—Wm Campbell, A Fowler. 142—W P Chamberlain, D C Bush, J E Smith, J H Merkley, H O Miller, F W Sherman, J W A Kirk, A S Doran, D R Roberts, Geo G Rose. 143—H W Wallace, W I. Redmond, A Burs, J J Sharp, J Raycroft, J McNairn. 144—G Close, A R Vivian. 146—H R Spencer, 151—A Chatfield E Huber, G C Secord. 153—W Haggart. 154—P Doonham. O E Daltry. 155—G J Early. 156—G H C Brooke, C T Duke, J Farewell, P Hagerman. 162—R Ross, F E Moore, W Stinson, J J Rutherford. 163—T H Alton, A McMillan. 171—D McLean, A D Campbell, A Patterson, B McIntyre, T Sloan, A Humphrey, J M Brown, J H Ross. 174—E Woodward, W McDonald, C Gates, A B Bradt, W Oakes. 177—J M Morgan, J R McFarlane, F C Powell, W H Sixsmith, W J Loughton. 180—G W Dodds, D Smith. 184—A McCallag, J A McDonald, G M Franklin. 192—D McNabb, W H Millar. 193—G Mordue, A Cornell. 203—Hugh Clark. 209a—W S Rhycard, W M Fielding, J W Martin, M Vanatter, H R Lyon. 217—C G Wood. 218—W A Bell, W Johnston, J Miller, F T Thomson, J Treloir, W Thomaon, J Wright, J Woodburn. 219—D Williams, G W Grant, R L Corey, J K McKenzie, J Hanes. 222—A M Caverley, W Bonter, A H Loucka. 229—J A Graham. 230—V H English. 231—W Bird, O J Brazier, M McRae. 233—E J Phippen. 233—W G Collins, R J Stevens. 243—J Westwood. 247—B D Pearson, A S King. 249—P Schlaser, N Reardon. 250—J W Rutherford, J Kinniburgh. 254—J Rankin, E J Burton, W E Burger, L T Delcomyn, W McHattie, D Fraser, J Clark, J O Doran. 256—W R Kerr, W D Tawse. 260—J M Oatman, F A Smiley, J A Webb. 262—W Thackery, D Rupert. 263—J W Thomas, T A Reid, W J Stirton. 270—F W Brooke, J Blair. 271—J B Jackson, R H Galbraith, A Pringle, D S McLellan. 274—J S Upper, J C Walker, A L Peacock, J Cox, F S Bounsall. 283—C Green, E Richardson. W Haight. 291—J Wheeler, G S Field, G H Harper, W Dymott. 294—D T Elder, D T Crawford, O Ross. 295—E Woodman, A Longman, C Harifield, A Booth. 302—G Gourley, F Batzold, jr. Thos Lowe. 307—Jas Brisson. 308—R H Cullis, A L Cullis, P Courtland, R Downs, J P Fisher, J S Habbkirk, Jas S Hart, R Kirkpatrik, T H Ryan, Wm Scharfee, L Wetlaufer. 312—J Andrews,

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C Swainson, A D Brandër, W H Clutterbuck, C S Wooler, C S Judson, M Cameron, S L Mann, S Tomers, J Cooper, Thos Mayes, — G Laird, E Stevens, J S Cooper, J A Steinhoff, A L Cameron, D R Sutherland, Geo Hill, J Daly, J D McNulty, R T Riddell, 314—A Hobson, A Brechin, 316—H Lucas, C A Hutchison, 320—L W Howard, 332—W Fitzgerald, A Russell, 324—R F Wodehouse, D Barton, B S Cathells, 326—J Robertson R Husted, G L Lindsay, Geo P Pike, C H Bosanquet, T L Gallagher, H C Coates, 329—J Edmondson, T G Prestland, 330—J J Smith, N J Hopkins, F E Davis, A Carswell, E F Needham, A B Blake Foster, 332—W Cardwell, 336—W Gates, Jas Chambers, J C Munson, H A Cook, 338—N B Burton, G H Bailie, Jr, J K Leslie, J M Pierce, W Russell, J J Walsh, 313—Robt Reilly, L B Montgomery, E Buffum, 345—C Blodget, 348—W C Darnley, R Reilly, 347—T H Cumming, T C Allardice, M Dow, J J Eamora, J B Wilkie, J C Pomeroy, J Davidson, I Perry, A H Halliday, T B Kerr, I C Madill, N Jeffrey, D Thorp, 348—P Gillespie, 352—W G Jessop, J McAllister, 314—R C Brandon, T J Taylor, 367—D McKensie, L Padler, H T Smith, 368—W Sims, n. 371—Hy Worley, W Percy, W G Price, 377—C A Moore, D R Decatur, 373—H C Symonds, J B Smyth, W Hadden, N G Moore, D S Tuttle, 390—F H Kenna, F Stoneman, J A Gauld, C F Warcup, F T C Richardson, Hy Gauder, J H Gatecliffe, A G Hicks, 382—W R Fray, W W Foster, W W Turnbull, A Cntbush, T Gooding, W J Laing, A W Brice, L T Delcomyn, T Hedden, E McKeon, H Cooper, T A Martin, 383—J W Kennedy, J H Gould, R Dow, R Hill, 381—T G Cooper, G G Robinson, 386—F Barry, 397—W O Bell, 388—Thos Wilson, 394—Wm McLeod, 399—J L Lawer, A Scott, 403—R S McDonald, F B Hensen, I Kenny, P H Fauquier, E E Schultz, 403—F W Holloway, J A Bell, W I Sullivan, J McIlroy, Alexander Lyons, 406—W E Ellis, 408—T W Fountain, 410—A F Dixon, R Gillespie, H Rogers, 412—T Plummer, W Pennington, W C Foster, R Craig, J P McInnes, A L Friedman, 416—E Kershaw, W Handcock, N Armstrong, J McPhail, 419—E Phelps, H B Fairborne, J H McIntyre, R H Frier, A Neacomba, 420—W H Burger, J Lomax, S A Huntington, J M Tchell, W Wilkinson, R N Atkinson, L W Hart, P J Joubert, F W Thompson, W Hepburn, W D Gav E White, W H Hollendale, F Reynlds, G W Tanner, A H Beau, 424—W E Vanstone, 430—W P McMaster, W Thompson, W Moore, 438—Jas Alexander, A B Armstrong, J C Cockburn, R K Barton, C P Clark, H M East, J H Fairbairn, C Hamden, J J McKay, Thos O'Brien, W C Tyler, 440—W McKelvey.

DEATHS, 1899-1900

No. 2—Robt Rogers, 17th October, '99. 3—G A Kirkpatrick, 13th December, '99. 5—T J B Harding, 28th August '99. 6—O E Coplamore, 26th Sept, '99; Geo E Tuckett, 18th Feb, 1900; Alex Burns 22nd May, 1900. 7—Robt O Book, 26th Oct, '99; W D Forbes, 22nd Jan'y, 1900; D Sykes, 27th June, 1900. 15—W A Deacon, 7th July, '99. 16—S D Fisher, 22nd Feb'D, 1900. 17—D McNaughton, 21st June, 1900. 18—T Shannon, 3rd Aug, '99; I J Soby, 15th May, 1900. D H Solmes, 31st Jan'y, 1900; J H Murney, 28th Feb'y, 1900. 20—R Saddler, 18th Feb'y, 1900. 22—V C Clements, n. date; J Campbell, 5th Feb'y, 1900; R Elder, 20th Feb'y, 1900; T Senior, 9th May, 1900; G R Hamilton, 10th June, 1900. 25—L Stracey, 5th Dec, '99; T Wollerstan, n. date. 27—W F Walker, 27th Feb'y, 1900; J R Vert, 31st March, 1900. 29—J W Freeman, 6th Dec, '99. 31—S Hurden, 4th Oct, '99. 32—W Neice, 18th Dec, '99; W S Moote, 18th June 1900. 33—W A Rhynas, 28th Oct, '99; R S Dickson, 9th May, 1900; Jas Hays, 11th May, 1900. 34—W Thomas, 30th July, '99. 33—R Hamilton, 4th Oct, '99. 40—R Chisholm, 13th July, '99; Geo Hamiton, 8th May, 1900. 41—R Drummond, 1th Oct, '99. 42—J A Kennedy, 25th Nov, '99. 43—Thos W McKee, 2th Sept, '99; Jas White, 19th Nov, '99. 44—R A McKay, 23rd Dec, '99. 45—D Marquis, Oct, '99; G H Frankland, 10th May, 1900. 46—Robt Martin 2nd June, '99; J E Brook, 4th Oct, '99; T Stone, 17th Oct, '99; W J Watson, 16th Dec, '99. 47—Geo Irwin, 27th April, 1900. 48—B H Eekert, 18th Aug, '99. 54—W Richardson, 1st Oct, '99; J Smelser, 23rd June, 1900. 56—W Splan, 10th Dec, '99; J J Dryden, 2nd March, 1900. 57—R Wright, 7th April, 1900. 58—Jas Munnie, 21st March 1900. 61—R B Potts, 11th July, '99; G McGill, 14th Aug, '99; P C Blalcher, 20th March, 1900. 64—A B Deacon, 1898; C W Davis, 21st June, '99; Jas B Campbell, 12th Oct, '99. 65—C Porter, Nov, '99; A E Fox, Aug, '99; R D Meyers, 18th June, 1900. 69—J M Ashley, 29th June, '99. 72—G F Torrance, 25th Aug, '99; A M Eewlands, 24th July, 1900. 71—T A Heintzman, July, '99; E S Evans, Oct, '99; Jas Forsyth, Nov, '99; J Meharg, 24th Jan'y, 1900; T Hills, 11th Feb'y, 1900; J Alderdice, 14th May, 1900; Jno Hallam, 21st June, 1900. 76—W Totten, 20th Dec, '99; E Sharpe, 4th March, 1900. 78—J B Thompson, 25th June, '99. 79—Lewis R Algoe, 16th Dec, '99. 86—J A Mills, 13th July, '99. 88—J McD Coates, Jan'y, 1900. 90—Jas Lindsay, 20th Jan'y, 1900. 91—Geo Cockburn 6th Oct, '99; G O Fowler, 23rd Nov, '98. 91—F Rowland, 14th Jan'y, '99; C H Hatch, 15th March, '99; W Waddington, 24th May, '99; J O Metcalf, 19th June, '99. 91—L S Sanders,

8th Oct. '99. 99—D H B Phillips, 30th January, 1900. 101—V. Clementi, 16th Oct. '99. 103—W Ellis, 15th Dec. '99; W W V Corbin, 22nd Jan, 1900; J A Bristow, 4th May, 1900. 104—H McDowell, 22nd Oct. '99. 105—D Morningstar, 24th April, '99; J Sagar, 30th Oct. '99; G Hyatt, 26th March, 1900; A A Powell, 10th April, 1900; J Hartman, 3rd June, 1900. 106—H Taylor, 3rd Jan'y, 1900. 110—A Jordan, 19th Nov. '99. 114—C Colman, 23rd Dec. '99. 15—G J Immel, 24th March, 1900. 116—Robt F Manly, 8th March, 1900. 118—Thos Brown, 4th July, '99. 120—N S McCall, 30th Aug. '99. 121—J F Excell, 25th Feb'y, 1900. A B Milks, 25th Feb'y, 1900; B Nuttall, 1st Aug. '99. 122—D C McDougall, 31st Oct. '99; S Acton, 22nd May, 1900. 123—W H Carscallen, 15th Sept. '99. 125—G H Weagant, 10th July, '99; A Cameron, 9th April, 1900. 128—C A Prigg, 10th November, '99; T. Jackson, Dec '99; H Sinton, Feb. 1900. 133—R H Collin, 1st March, 1900. 135—E Dixon, 7th Oct. '99. 141—Jas Begg, 11th June, '99. 142—M A Marcellus, 3rd Nov. '99. R Lyle, 11th April, 1900; W Whitteker, 24th April, 1900. 144—J Bernhard, 21st Nov. '99. 145—W Piercey, 13th Oct. '99. 146—J Van P Detlor, 12th April, 1900. 147—W G Nulson, 5th Jan'y, '99. J McN Munro, 8th May, '99. 148—Geo Logan, 17th Nov. '99; W R Wright, 24th Dec. '99. 151—J Seylor, Nov '99. 154—W Port, 12th Sept. '99; H O'Neill, 11th May, 1900. 157—R Bol on 5th April, 1900. 158—J Savage, Dec '99. 161—J McCleminson, 28th April, 1900. 164—H McCullough, 29th March, 1900. 166—J W Robertson, 12th Sept. '99. 168—T R Second, 6th Sept. '99. 169—E. Smith, 6th Nov. '99. 170—W E Caldwell, 3rd Sept. '99. 177—J E Parker, 26th July, '99; W Irvine, 13th Jan'y 1900; H Hinds, 6th April, 1900. 190—F Skinner, 11th Dec. '99; R Campbell, 22nd Dec. '99; Jas Parker, 17th May, 1900. 181—V S Milks, 2nd Dec. '99. 192—M Hall, 12th Oct. '99; A N McCarthy, 17th June, 1900. 193—R Durham, 11th Oct. '99. 194—J W Croasbie, 2nd Aug. '99; C R Simpson, 24th July '99; T A Thompson, 9th July '99. 196—W Allen, 8th July, '99. 197—W M Murdoch, 8th Aug. '99. 200—H B Jelly, 30th Sept. '99; J A Young, 9th April, 1900. 201—Jno Willis, 21st March. '99; W Raymond, 16th Nov. '99. 204—R F Matthews, 18th March, '99; H J White, 6th April, '99; F W Barnes, 14th Sept. '99. 215—S. Simmonds, 6th Feb'y, 1900. 216—W C Dahl, 23rd Aug. '99. 218—J A McDonald, 29th Nov. '99; A W Gilchrist, 25th April, 1900. 220—W D Irvine, 5th Sept. '99. 221—Jas Weeks, 2nd Fept. '99; H. James, 8th Feb'y, 1900. 228—H B Senior, 18th March, 1900. 230—H Harper, 6th April, 1900. 231—T J Benbow, 30th Oct. '99; C R Church, 24th April, 1900; F G Balcombe, 28th May, 1900. 234—A A Ingersoll, 10th Jan'y, 1900. 236—W M Smith, 11th Jan'y, 1900. 237—E Payne, 2nd Sept. '99. 238—A G Shirley, 8th Dec. '99; J McWaters, 6th Dec. '99. 242—A McDonald, 8th March, 1900. 247—J Renwick, 35th June, '99; R E Bailey, 4th March, 1900. 249—C J Warder, 12th Oct. '99; J Dixon, 27th Sept. 1897. 256—A Dawson, 19th Feb'y, 1900. 263—J G Johnson, 21st June, 1900. 265—W T Clay, 11th June, 1900. 274—A F Robertson, 29th Jan'y, 1900. 277—A Kelly, 29th Sept. '99. 282 P J McAlpine. 17th Sept. '99. 290—W H Ival, 12th July. '99; Chas Chamberlain, 11th May, 1900. 292—J Smelser, 22nd June, 1900. 294—Geo Leslie, 27th Jan'y, 1900. 297—M H Rolling, 23rd Dec. '99. 300—A Griffith, 19th Nov. '99. 302—E Smith, 15th Jan'y, 1900. 306—A McKenzie, 1st Fept. '99. 307—B Batchelor, 5th Aug. '99; J Detwiler, 15th May, 1900. 309—A T McDonald, 20th Jan'y, '99; H Girvin, 30th Jan'y. '99. 312—W McIrose, 19th, Feb'y. '99. 320—A C Carr, 7th Dec. '99. 324—W E Sanford, 10th July, '99; A F Forbes, 2nd Aug. '99. A A Fuller, 5th May, 1900. 325—R M Leod, 27th Dec. '99. 326—J Fletcher, 1st Dec. '99; W Christie 14th June, 1900. 332—J McFadden, 4th Aug. '99; S A Cameron, 25th April, 1900. 334—A Fraser, 18th Feb. 1900. 339—E Blong, 25th July. '99; J W T Bryce, 14th Aug. '99; J Burns, 12th Nov. '99; J Burns, 12th Nov. '99; R E Bal'ev, 3rd March, 1900; J Roose, 15th April, 1900; J Jtinson, 13th June, 1900. 346—W Hexley, 16th March, 1900; V V Ashford, 21st March, 1900. 348—J J J Buckley, no date. 352—W Wilcox, 21nd March, 1900; F. Shaw 31st May, 1900. 359—J. McCall, 11th July, '99. 361—F B Skinner, 14th Dec. '99. 367—W M Murdoch, Aug. '99. 368—J Reynolds, 25th Sept. '99; Saul, Reynolds, 14th March, 1900. 369—W Suggitt, 18th June, 1900. 371—D A Welch, no date. 378—D D Smith, 5th May, 1900; K. Hadden, 16th June, 1900. 380—W Avey, 17th April, '99; E Green, 23rd April, '99. 382—B G Trebe, 22nd Aug. '99; W Teale, 26th March, 1900. 394—Thos Hopkirk, 9th July, '99. 396—J McMullen, 3rd June, '99. 401—Geo A Browne, 408—P D McArthur, 12th Jan'y, 1900; Jas McHattie, 26th March, 1900. 409—A P Correll, 11th April, 1900. 414—A Burron, 26th Sept. '99; Jas Barton 5th Oct. '99. 415—W Manning, no date. 418—M L Stewart, 25th Jan'y, 1900. 427—W O Washburn, 19th Dec. '99. 425—John Polley, 20th Oct. '99. 428—W McGill, 1st Aug. '99. 420—A R K Elliott, 12th March, 1900. 439—D C McMillan, 24th July, '99

RESTORATIONS, 1899-1900.

No. 3—Jas Yule, Hugh Lawson, J R Taylor, J W Brooks. 5—D J D Campbell, Thos G Cook. 6—J W Rose, Thos Smith, D Duncan. 9—E B Stone. 11—R McEllan. 14—J A Laurie, W J Dixon. 18—W P Reynolds, R Hubbs. 20—F H Mitchell. 22—D T Secor, H Folger, J J Kilby, B L Northcott. 25—L A

Purdy. W A Courson, R B Macklam. 31—W Fishley. 34—Jas Templeton.
 38—J E Baker, B A Sansom, J F Spaulsbury. 42—W Joiner. 43—R C West, L
 E Edward. 47—Geo W Bolton. U L Potts. 50—J P Stapleton. 55—I H Wick-
 ware. H S Ferguson. 57—E J Duffey, H Railston. 61—W E Robson, T Brown.
 62—J H Munro. 64—Alf G Siroyan. 65—W DePodesta, F G Lee, W P Hender-
 son. 69—G W Kerr, R Bennett, A Chard jun. J Duncan, T Searles, W P Chard.
 73—T F Harrison. 75—J C Silver, J H Lowe, J E Snider. 76—E H Smale.
 77—C H Begg, C Reeves. 78—W Morris. 79—W Ellis, B Kilborn. 85—E C
 Silter. 46—H W Joselin. 87—J Reesor, D Johnson. 88—Jas Ireton. 90—Geo
 Glover, N J Cole, J L Cox. 92—W Newman. 93—C Poulton, J Fair, T Bradley,
 T Morgan, J Crozier, H A Macintosh. 94—O C Preffer, F E Shepard. 96—M
 Burton. 97—O Cuthbertson. 100—Thos Millington, T Cowie. 103—M W
 Tuford, A A McMaugh, R W Lawrie. 107—J D O'Neill, J Davis, E Davis.
 110—A Jordan. 113—R W Trotter. 121—G W Elliott, W F Templar. 126—H
 Sinclair, S S Coch. 129—B Richardson, H G Graham. 133—T A Browe.
 135—J T Chisholm. 137—R Petch. 141—W P Kerr. 143—J W A Kirk. 154—P
 Downham, W H Atkinson, G W Hodgins. 155—W J Hall. 156—H E Webster,
 E A Macdonald. 157—W H Rolison. 161—A M Sauborne. 164—N Searis.
 168—Jos A McCargar. 169—A Schell. 171—Humphrey. 177—J Pushman.
 178—G A Mitchell. 185—T Rundle, J Parker, P Gokie, F B Skinner, R Camp-
 bell, D Smith. 185—W Young. 186—N G Ross. 194—John Scott. 200—W
 Currie. 201—H Capes, A Edwards, S F Lloyd. 209—Geo McCombe. 212—Jas
 Horne. 216—W J Allen, R B Henry, W Parsons. 218—T Greenwood. 219—L
 Auld. 230—G Hobson, T Magrattan, T McGratton, W Hogg. 231—J McDonald,
 J Weck, J T Winslow. 234—J Dyer. 239—C Smedley. 239—G Moore. 239—N
 Talman, A McEachern. 237—Chas Thornthwaite. 242—J Stewart. 247—R
 Kidney, E W Wood, A S King. 254—A Coulthurst. 263—A McPherson, W H
 Harrison. 268—Samuel D Cairns. 269—F A Beaton, S B Lynde. 273—Jas
 Field. 276—F Landes, W G Morrison. 277—M Henry. 284—T Kirkcound.
 287—Jas Metcalfe, S D Allen. 294—D T Elder. 300—J Henderson. 316—D C
 Fraser. 320—J O Gathoun. 323—H W Robertson, J Ward, P W Sabiston,
 J A Whiteside, G A Ross. 324—G T Simpson. 334—J W McKeown. 338—W E
 Lee. 339—D Hunter jun, G R Moore, A J Jackson, D Hunter sen, J C Tilt, J H
 Westman, W J Gilbert, J K Lealie, W Russell. 343—J Spalding. 346—R E
 Clarke, G A Shields. 347—A H Halliday, J B Wikie. 348—J H Craigie, W M
 Thompson. 354—R C Brundon. 356—J M Sutton, S Mitchell. 357—W Dock-
 ings. 358—W Alf Guest, H C Garnett. 360—S C D Roper. 361—W J Spark-
 man, F B Skinner, H McGuire. 377—R Hodgins, T Hobbs, H J M Wilson.
 368—W R Gardner. 370—E O Collinson. 376—Geo Turner. 378—A Loughney.
 390—S A Stinson, M Baldwin, W D Gloghton, J Paterson. 384—W J Foster,
 W Shields. 396—W McEwan. 399—J W Cornish. 401—Jas. Cameron. 402—W
 Betcone. 402—W O Armstrong. 410—T C Robinette, C O Tilley, C T Strong,
 J W Curry. 413—S J Maguire, S W Berry. 415—A H Chase. 418—J D Robert-
 son. 420—J Holditch, W Hepburn. 424—D Aman, W F Vanstone. 426—Alex
 Hay. 427—W R Griffith, J A Austin, W Blewitt. 430—W H Lucas.

In Memoriam.

Most Worshipful Brother

JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec;
Past D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and Grand
Representative.

Died 12th August, 1899.

Most Worshipful Brother

JAMES E. EDMISTON

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington;
Grand Representative.

Died 9th May, 1900.

Right Worshipful Brother

HUMPHREY MINCHIN, M.B.

Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Died 8th January, 1900.

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

JOHN E. BROOKE

Past Master of Wellington Lodge, No. 46, Chatham ;
P. D. D. G. M. London District.

Died 4th October, 1899.

Right Worshipful Brother

ROBERT MACKAY

Past Master of St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44, St. Thomas ;
P. D. D. G. M. London District, (then) No. 2.

Died 23rd December, 1899.

Right Worshipful Brother

R. H. COLLINS

Past Master of Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter ;
P. D. D. G. M. South Huron District, No. 4.

Died 1st March, 1900.

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

C. R. CHURCH, M. D.

Past Master of Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa;
P. D. D. G. M. Ottawa District (then) No. 13.

Died 30th April, 1900.

Right Worshipful Brother

REV. VINCENT CLEMENTI,

B. A.

Past Master of Corinthian Lodge, No. 101, Peterboro ;
Past Grand Chaplain.

Died 16th October, 1899.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

JAMES J. BUCKLEY

**Past Master of Georgian Lodge, No. 348, Penetang ;
Past Grand Steward.**

Died 18th August, 1899.

Very Worshipful Brother

WILLIAM MELROSE

**Past Master of Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden ;
Past Grand Steward.**

Died 19th February, 1900.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1900-1901.

THE GRAND MASTER.

M. W. Bro. Richard B. Hungerford.....London

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro. John E. Harding, Q.C.....Lindsay

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. Rev. W. H. Jamieson, D.D.	Blenheim	Erie	District No. 1
" Albert W. Parks	Oil Springs	St. Clair	" 2
" John Thorncroft	Lambeth	London	" 3
" D. E. Monro	Auburn	South Huron	" 4
" James H. Scott	Kincardine	North Huron	" 5
" James Smiley	Paris	Wilson	" 6
" Wm. Cowan	Galt	Wellington	" 7
" Wm. Birrell	Hamilton	Hamilton	" 8
" Alvin Orton	Bradford	Georgian	" 9
" T. A. Simpson	Beamsville	Niagara	" 10
" W. H. McFadden	Brampton	Toronto West	" 11
" H. J. Gould	Uxbridge	Toronto East	" 11a
" G. H. Linton	Orono	Ontario	" 12
" N. A. Bonesteel	Frankford	Prince Edward	" 13
" A. Shaw	Kingston	Frontenac	" 14
" A. D. Cameron	Lancaster	St. Lawrence	" 15
" John Robertson	Ottawa	Ottawa	" 16
" J. A. McCrossan	Rat Portage	Algoma	" 17
" G. W. Liddle	North Bay	Nipissing	" 18

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ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, LONDON, 5900. 355

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" W. H. McFadden.....	Brampton
" H. J. Gould.....	Uxbridge
" G. H. Linton.....	Orono
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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1900.

Report on Correspondence.

HENRY ROBERTSON, *Chairman.*

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Correspondence beg to present their annual Review of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges. The jurisdictions are noticed in alphabetical order, and a list will be found at the end of the report. The Grand Lodge of Arkansas had no meeting in 1899, as they meet biennially for a few years. All the other North American Grand Lodges are reviewed, and several of the Australian.

There are no very striking episodes to report. The repeal of the obnoxious "Negro" resolutions by the Grand Lodge of Washington has been accepted by some of the United States jurisdictions as sufficient to enable them to resume fraternal intercourse with that Grand Lodge, but there are others to whom it is not satisfactory on account of the rider attached to the repeal insisting on the right of the lodges in Washington to determine for themselves the status of all who may apply for admission, irrespective of the action of other bodies.

The Craft in general is very prosperous, pursuing the even tenor of its way, spreading the blessings of peace and concord in every direction, teaching its members to observe more faithfully the Golden Rule, developing the doctrine of unity in the prosecution of good works, and comforting the widow, the orphan and the needy by practical benevolence and unflinching sympathy. May it long continue.

ALABAMA.

79th Communication, Montgomery, Dec. 5, 1899.

B. Dudley Williams, G.M.

After recounting his official visits, the Grand Master says:

Exactng professional duties have prevented my acceding to the urgent invitations of many Lodges to visit them. I have done the very best possible, and the brethren who have so cordially insisted upon my presence, have assurance of my heartfelt appreciation of their kindly consideration. Wherever I have gone I have invariably found the brethren zealous and enthusiastic in behalf of the Order, and one has but to put his ear to the great bosom of Masonry in Alabama to catch the heart-throbs of a reanimated and reconstructed Brotherhood, more powerful than the hosts of Sennacherib and nobler than Knights of Roman Eagle.

We also quote the conclusion of this eloquent address:

Finally, brethren, under the inspiration of a reconsecrated zeal, of a reanimated devotion, of an intensified love, let us take courage, and press onward to nobler heights and grander achievements. Our Institution rests upon the broad foundation of human sympathies. Its objects are through the inculcation and practice of God-given virtues to raise the fallen, cheer the faint, help the needy and lift man back to glory and to God. With heart to heart, and hand to back, an invincible army, with the banners of peace and the weapons of innocence, with Love as our motto, and Fidelity as our captain, let us charge the entrenchments of avarice, oppression and greed. Let a spirit of helpfulness and consideration, of sympathy, charity and benevolence, nerve our hearts and animate our impulses. Our aims are noble, our mission is grand, our hope is eternal. Let us unite and labor to advance the principles of our glorious institution. Let Fraternity mould our action. Let us live the lives of true Masons, until Masonry and its blessed influence shall permeate every worthy home. "Let the hills sing to the valleys and the rivers to the plains, our anthems of brotherly love. From the vine-clad banks of the Tallapoosa to the gushing fountains of the Tombigbee; from the crystal bosom of the Tennessee, mirroring the craggy spurs of the Blue Ridge, to the whispering waves of the great Mexican Gulf; from the dizzy, historic heights of Lookout, to the nodding pines and scented orange groves of the South; all over our beloved, heaven-favored commonwealth, let the blessed benedictions of Masonry fall upon suffering sin-cursed humanty, "like the dew drops that fall from the eyelids of the morning to moisten the lips of the roses," until vice and immorality, suffering and destitution, shall give place to the beauties of virtue and rejoicings of contentment.

O then will the chorus be mighty and wide:
Alabama redeemed! Alabama, our pride!
In thy green sunny pastures there's naught to molest;
Alabama, we love thee, and "here we will rest!"

The following report was adopted:

Your committee, to whom was referred the special report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence relating to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, at its last annual communication, in rescinding certain resolutions theretofore adopted by that Grand Body, with reference to the status of certain negroes claiming to be regularly made Masons, beg leave to report, after careful consideration of the matter submitted to us.

We are constrained to the conclusion that while the Grand Lodge of Washington has in terms rescinded the resolutions which were offensive to this Grand Lodge, and which caused the severance of fraternal relations between us and that Grand Body, it has accompanied the act of rescission with declarations which plainly and pointedly indicate that it is of "the same opinion still," and further that it proposes to uphold any Lodge within its jurisdiction in acting on the spirit of the resolutions in the recognition of persons as regular Masons whom this Grand Lodge in common with other Grand Lodges has expressly declared to be clandestine; and that by the adoption of these declarations it has destroyed the force of the mere formal act of rescission, and therefore has failed to remove the real cause which has given offense.

Resolved, 1st. That, in view of existing conditions, this Grand Lodge "does not see its way clear" to revoke, at this time, its action in withdrawing fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington.

2. That reaffirming our former action in this behalf we desire the Grand Lodge of Washington and all other Grand Bodies to distinctly understand that we sincerely desire to preserve and perpetuate fraternal relations with them all, and to this end are ready at any future time to rescind our action with reference to the Grand Lodge of Washington whenever we can do so without a sacrifice of a principle which we deem essential to the purity of our order, and to the protection and preservation of true Masonic principles, usages and landmarks.

The Grand Secretary reports that at no time has there ever been greater zeal and enthusiasm among the Craft in this State than exists now. More work has been done than in any previous year.

Bro. W. Y. Titcomb presented an excellent report on Correspondence, in which our Proceedings of 1898 are fraternally noticed.

Lodges, 377; members, 11,291; decrease, 54.

B. Dudley Williams (Oxford), G.M.

H. Clay Armstrong (Montgomery), G.S.

ARIZONA.

18th Communication, Tucson, Nov. 14, 1899.

Anthony A. Johns, G.M.

The lodges are greatly prospering and their high standard of excellence is maintained.

On the recommendation of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge dues were remitted of their soldiers and Rough Riders while on service.

A lodge at Nogales on the frontier of Mexico, makes the following complaint:

Ermilmon G. Canton Lodge, of Nogales, Sonora, some three months ago, requested the use of our Lodge room, for the purpose of organizing a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Dieta Simbolica of the State of Sonora, and we, as a Masonic courtesy, granted them the use of our Lodge room for that purpose. Some two weeks thereafter, they claimed that they had not perfected their organization, and requested the use of our Lodge room again for one night. This we again granted them. At this second meeting they initiated three Entered Apprentice Masons, and, we are informed, used our jewels for that purpose—these men whom they initiated being Americans, and residents of Nogales, Arizona, one of whom had been blackballed by our Lodge two or three months previous. As soon as we ascertained what the Sonora Lodge had been doing in Arizona, we refused them further use of our Lodge rooms, upon the grounds:

First. That they had no right to meet as Masons within this jurisdiction, without a charter from the Grand Lodge of Arizona, and, if that theory be true, they would be clandestine Masons; and,

Secondly. That they had no right to confer the degrees upon persons living within the jurisdiction of Arizona, without obtaining a waiver from us.

After this they secured quarters on the Mexican side of the line and proceeded to pass to the degree of Fellow Craft, and raise, to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the three persons above mentioned, since which time they have again applied for the use of our Lodge room, and again have been refused, upon the same grounds.

As soon as Nogales Lodge, No. 11, learned of this action on the part of the Mexican Lodge, the matter was taken up, and the Master and Secretary instructed to communicate with E. Pelaez (who was then in our city), the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Arizona to the Grand Dieta Simbolica de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, and protest against such action on the part of the Mexican Lodge. Bro. Pelaez then requested the Master and Secretary to address him a communication, stating the facts, which we did, and which he, in turn, forwarded to the City of Mexico to the Grand Lodge; whereupon

the Grand Lodge ordered that the person whom we had black-balled and who had been made a Master Mason by the Mexican Lodge, be suspended.

This is a full report of the proceedings thus far.

Now, therefore, we most earnestly beseech you to take up the matter with the Gran Dieta Simbolica, through our Representative, Bro. E. Pelaez, of Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico, to the end that the jurisdictional lines may be preserved and clearly defined, and that these three persons above mentioned be expelled from the Nogales, Sonora Lodge, as otherwise, we will soon have knocking at our doors, demanding admission as Masons, men whom we do not believe are, or can be made into, good Masons.

Living on the border line may have its advantages for some, but one good brother finds that it has its disadvantages as well.

I, A. Bachelier, the undersigned, respectfully represent that I am a Mason in good standing; that I was such on the 23rd day of July, A.D. 1893; that on the said day of July, 1893, John Roberts was a member of the same lodge to which I belonged, and was an active peace officer at Nogales, Arizona, all of which I knew; that the said John Roberts, acting in his official capacity, attempted to arrest some parties who had commenced a fight near the international line; that said parties resisted arrest and began beating said Roberts, who called on me to assist him. When I was running to his assistance one of the parties broke away and ran in the same direction from which I was coming. I seized him and he fell, part of his body being in Mexico.

Bro. Roberts arrested him and he was placed in jail, but was released on the following morning and passed over the line into his own country.

The Mexican authorities—on information from whom I do not know—filed a charge against me of having violated their law in having arrested a Mexican citizen in their own country and forcing him into the United States. This charge is still pending, and since the said 23rd of July, 1893, I have been deterred from crossing the line, to the great detriment of my business, and myself and family suffer thereby, as every malicious person can speak of me as a violator of the law.

In going to the assistance of Bro. Roberts, I did so in obedience to my obligation as a Mason, and yet for six years and four months this cloud has rested upon me and my family. I did no wrong, as it has never been substantiated that the party arrested by Bro. Roberts was at the time in Mexico. I cannot appeal to the courts of Mexico for justice, as prejudice would operate against me, for having once alleged that my act was in violation of their law; they would not be willing to admit their error.

The influence of our Order can remove this unjust oppression which weighs upon me, and I appeal to your Body to take some action in my behalf therein.

Any committee appointed to investigate the matter can be

satisfied of the correctness of my statements and can ascertain that no culpability attaches to me.

I make this appeal to your Honorable Body because my own Lodge has neglected to pay attention to my appeal in the same matter.

A. BACHELIER.

I hereby certify that I am a Mason in good standing; that I am well acquainted with Bro. Bachelier, whose petition is hereto attached; that he is an honorable, upright man, and that his statement hereto attached is correct. This I certify from absolute knowledge, as I was the attorney employed by the Mexican authorities to defend the arrested man referred to by Bro. Bachelier, and it has never been determined whether the greater part of the party's body at the time of his arrest was in the United States or Mexico.

EB. WILLIAMS.

Nogales, Arizona, November 4, 1899.

To the Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of Nogales Lodge, No. 11, F. & A. M.:

Your committee, duly appointed to investigate the complaint of Bro. A. Bachelier in respect to his being unable to cross the international line into Mexico for fear of arrest on account of his having assisted our deceased brother, John Roberts, when City Marshal, to arrest an offender against the law on or near the boundary line when called upon by him to do so, beg leave to report that they have given much attention to the matter and made many inquiries, and find that there is reason to believe that Bro. Bachelier may be arrested should he cross into Mexico, under the Mexican officials' views of the matter; and inasmuch as our laws, and especially the rules of Masonry, required such action on the part of Bro. Bachelier, and he has not committed any offense for which he should be thus under bar and restraint, to his pecuniary loss and great discomfort of himself and family, therefore this committee recommend that the Lodge respectfully ask that the Grand Lodge of this Territory make representation of the matter to the Masonic Grand Lodge of Mexico, and ask their fraternal help to have it placed in the proper light before the proper Mexican authorities, to the end that the local officials of Nogales, Mexico, be instructed to take no action against our brother in relation to the said matter should he enter at any time the borders of our sister republic.

Your Committee on Correspondence, to whom was referred the petition of Bro. A. Bachelier, would respectfully report thereon:

That it appears from the petition and accompanying papers that Bro. Bachelier has unintentionally subjected himself to some form of punishment at the hands of the authorities of the Republic of Mexico; that, further, there seems to be reasonable doubt as to the actual situation where the alleged act was performed; and, further yet, that whatever was done by

Bro. Bacheller was prompted by humane purpose, and, as he believed, under the stress of Masonic demand.

We would recommend that a full statement of the facts, with copies of all pertinent documents, be prepared by the Grand Secretary and forwarded through the proper channels to the Gran Dieta Simbolica de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, respectfully requesting that Grand Body to consider the same, and, if deemed advisable by them, that they solicit relief at the hands of the national authorities of the Republic of Mexico.

Lodges, 14; members, 735; increase, 34.

William F. Nichols (Willcox), G.M.

George J. Roskrue (Tucson), G.S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

28th Communication, Kamloops, June 22, 1899.

David Wilson, G.M.

New lodges were opened at Greenwood, Sandon and Fort Steele, all in the Kootenay District.

Progress and prosperity are reported from almost all the lodges.

The Grand Master has the following remarks on the necessity of the perusal of Masonic literature.

The admirable suggestion about the introduction of Masonic literature into the Lodge rooms, made by the R.W. Bro. Young in his report (printed in the Proceedings of 1898) has not, I trust, been lost sight of by those who, during the year, have been casting about for some means of keeping alive or arousing that interest on which the real success of a Lodge so much depends.

No one can doubt, as suggested by Bro. Young, the establishment, in connection with every Lodge, of a reading room, equipped with suitable Masonic and other literature, would be of incalculable benefit to its members, but such an undertaking would hardly be possible, except in the larger centers of population. There is, however, something that every Lodge can do in this direction—it can subscribe for a few first-class Masonic Journals and Magazines, and have some brother read aloud in Lodge the choice pieces of literature always found in them. Indeed, our own proceedings would furnish some interesting material for this purpose. These readings could be arranged for the meetings when there is "no work," or little business of any kind. I will go further and say that every member should subscribe for a Masonic paper of some kind, for "if we would keep up with the age, we must think, and in order to have subject for thought, we must read."

Bro. W. A. DeWolf Smith presented a capital re-

port on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1898 has a good notice.

Lodges, 27; members, 1639; increase, 300.

R. Eden Walker (New Westminster), G.M.

W. J. Quinlan (Nelson), G.S.

CALIFORNIA.

50th Communication, San Francisco, Oct. 10. 1899.

Frank M. Angellotti, G. M.

Their Masonic Home was opened in March, 1899, and in September there were 37 inmates. The Superintendent in his report says:

Space will permit of particular mention of but a few of the more notable of their achievements. Bro. Chambers has been diligent in keeping things in order in the men's building, and has regularly cleaned the windows and the large lounging hall. He has gladly assumed the duties of anyone else who happened to be ill. Bro. Siddons, although unavoidably handicapped by a late start, has worked faithfully with the garden, which his intelligent care has rendered so productive that we have had to rely but little upon the outside world for our vegetables. Our potatoes and our corn crop were hoed and harvested entirely by our residents. The orchard was pruned by Bro. Jackson. Bro. Pendleton also has proven himself an industrious and conscientious worker. A carpenter and millwright by trade, he has been of great service to the institution. Aside from the carpentering he has done, he has won the commendation of everybody by the skilful and competent manner in which he assisted in the construction of our new sewer.

Nor have our sisters been idle. Under the direction of our efficient and esteemed Matron, they have made, since the Home was opened, 16 felts for tables, 3 dozen table covers, 30 dozen napkins, 6 dozen roller towels, 6 dozen dish towels, 4 dozen glass towels, 12 dozen sheets, 12 dozen pillow cases, 2 dozen drawers, 5 skirts, 10 dresses, 20 night dresses and 12 aprons. Assisted by our sisters who peeled and cut the fruit, Mrs. Alkin has canned for winter use 24 dozen quarts of peaches, 12 dozen quarts of apricots, 12 dozen quarts of pears, 12 dozen quarts of strawberries, 12 dozen quarts of blackberries and 15 dozen jars of currant jelly. (Besides all this the old ladies have willingly mended and patched for the men and the children. To Sister Siddons in especial is due our grateful recognition of her unselfish and valuable assistance to the Matron.)

It is proper to say here that we have at no time encouraged our residents to undertake any tasks that would jeopardize their health by requiring too great an exertion of their energies. But it is obviously essential to the preservation of their

self-respect, their peace of mind, and their health of body, that their laudable desire to do something useful at the expense of a little salutary physical exertion should not be discouraged.

With the children the case is somewhat different. No child likes to work; yet it were greatly to injure children, who must in a few years earn a livelihood for themselves, to permit them to enter the world unaccustomed to any other exercises than those of the play-ground. Our children are required, therefore, to make themselves useful in a small way, care being always taken to allow them by far the greater part of their time for play and reading. We are careful, also, to apportion their several duties according to their abilities. They assist in waiting on table, and in washing and drying the dishes. Some make beds, some sweep and clean the dormitories, others the wash-rooms, others the reading-rooms. On Saturdays they sweep the dining room and scrub the porches and the main hall. These duties are light and are such as may be easily and quickly performed by children; they occupy but little of their time, and offer this inducement to assiduity and promptness that the sooner they are completed the more time the children have for recreation.

All our children attend the public schools at Decoto, where their teachers report they are making very satisfactory progress. A Sunday School has been established at the Home, under the direction of the Matron and Sister Kempthorn, and various clergymen have accepted our invitation to visit the Home on Sundays and expound the Scriptures to the residents. We have already been favored with Sunday addresses by Dr. Jacob Voorsanger, of San Francisco, and the Rev. Dr. Hale, of Niles. Through the generosity of Bro. Charles L. Patton, a gymnasium has been started in the large playroom of the main basement. A sewing class has been instituted for the benefit of the girls, and we hope soon to establish classes in kindergarten work, drawing, elocution, music, floriculture, photography, millinery, cooking, chemistry, hygiene, and nursing, and also in bookkeeping, typewriting and carpentering. We have arranged for a series of Stereopticon Lectures for the edification and amusement of our residents. A donation of over 500 volumes by the Mechanics' Library of San Francisco has formed the nucleus of a library at the Home. We have also the promise of many more books from our brethren. There are among our children many bright minds, and when the Home is full there will doubtless be many more, whose greatest usefulness in the world will be found in serving their fellowmen in the professions had they but an opportunity to secure a higher education. As it is to be hoped that the magnanimity of our brethren will ultimately afford generous endowments for this purpose.

IMPROVEMENTS.

High among the verdant foothills of the coast range, overlooking the fertile valley of the Santa Clara, stands the enduring monument of the charity of California Masons. A more

commanding, or a more beautiful site could hardly have been selected. The buildings, stately and symmetrical, look down impressively upon the beholders for miles below. Within, these edifices are elaborately equipped and elegantly furnished with all things conducive to the comfort and conveniences of their occupants.

A per capita tax of \$1 per year is levied on the membership for the benefit of the Home.

Bro. William A. Davies again reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1898.

Lodges, 267; members, 20,442; increase, 900.

Charles L. Patton (San Francisco), G.M.

George Johnson (San Francisco), G.S.

COLORADO.

39th Communication, Denver, Sept. 19, 1899.

Horace T. De Long, G.M.

The Craft as a whole is in a very prosperous condition. Three new lodges were formed.

Bro. Adna Adams Treat has completed the 102nd year of his age.

Three Custodians of the work were appointed to act as a permanent committee of the Grand Lodge, and to make an annual report.

Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf has an excellent report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1898 finds a place. On the subject of the physical qualifications of candidates, he publishes the following letter from Bro. W. J. Hughan, from which it may be inferred that the Grand Lodge of England does not require a candidate to be 'a perfect Youth.'

Dunstable, Torquay, England, Feb. 11th, 1899.

Dear Bro. Greenleaf:

In consideration of the subject of "Physical Qualifications," in your able "Report on Correspondence, Grand Lodge of Colorado," and my article thereon in "Proceedings Grand Lodge of Manitoba," you observe:

"Bro. Hughan in his letter intimates that the law has been ignored since the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1717. * * The burden of proof, therefore, rests with those who contend that the physical requirement belonged to the operative Craft, and that it has no place in speculative Masonry."

In reply, allow me to point out that the so-called 'Charges of a Freemason,' as arranged by Dr. Anderson and printed in the premier "Book of Constitutions" of A. D. 1723, never ex-

isted before, but substantially the one in question as to physical qualifications occurred in all the veritable "Old Charges" of the Operative Fraternity, as I explain fully in my two works on the subject, 1872 and 1895.

Now it is an undoubted fact, from 1723 to the present time, that the Grand Lodge of England has never accepted these "Charges" as possessing any legislative authority or as representing the laws for the government of the modern Brotherhood,* but only as indicative of the obsolete "Old Charges" of the operative regime. With occasional alterations the "Charges" of 1722 have been inserted in all our Books of Constitutions from 1723 to 1896, but never as Regulations passed for the guidance and control of the Craft.

This being so, it is clear that these "Charges" are simply and exclusively intended as specimens, archaeologically considered, of the usages and customs of the society anterior to the Grand Lodge era, but which, even prior to the last century, were looked upon as obsolete and were not used as obligatory laws, as formerly.

"Free-born" has been altered to "free-men" by the Grand Lodge of England—one indication that the "Charges" were not considered binding, and, as a matter of fact, no Grand Lodge accepts (or ever has) these "Charges" in their entirety, because unworkable. Wardens were to be selected from Fellow Crafts, Masters must have served as Wardens, and honest parentage was a condition of initiating a candidate. Even the age of admission has been altered, and other serious changes might be cited.

Above all, the "Old Charges" before 1717, and even for some time after, as circulated, required all candidates for Freemasonry to be Christians. Dr. Anderson altered that condition in his fanciful digest, and the Grand Lodge accepted his summary to insert before the Laws that the members agreed to, doubtless because they intended that the Craft should no longer be confined to that narrow basis.

With all good wishes, fraternally yours,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

*The "Atholl Masons" appear to have adopted the "physical qualification" in part, from 1756 or so, and then introduced the usage into America; but the Freemasonry in your great country prior to that period, and all since obtained from the premier Grand Lodge, was never so ordered, required or used by the Grand Lodge regulations that were for actual legislative objects.

Lodges, 91; members, 7,974; increase, 369.

Alphonse A. Burnand (Leadville), G.M.

Ed. C. Parmelee (Denver), G.S.

CONNECTICUT.

112th Communication, Hartford, Jan. 17, 1900.

George G. McNall, G.M.

The condition of the lodges is satisfactory, and their prosperity is in a great measure due to the efforts of the District Deputies.

Two of their Past Grand Masters crossed the silent river during the past year, Bros. Dwight Phelps and James H. Welsh.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

The following report was adopted:

"A candidate when obligated becomes a brother Mason, and in the opinion of your Committee, the ground of objection to advancement should be lack of sufficient proficiency in the preceding degrees or if made upon ground of moral unfitness, or un-Masonic conduct, such objections should only be used temporarily until proper charges can be brought against the brother seeking advancement and he can be heard in his defense.

Their Masonic Home at Wallingford has 51 inmates.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews the proceedings of Canada for 1899.

Lodges, 109; members, 17,446; increase, 214.

John O. Rowland (New Haven), G.M.

John H. Barlow (Hartford), G.S.

DELAWARE.

93rd Communication, Wilmington, Oct. 4, 1899.

J. Harmer Rile, G.M.

Peace and harmony abound throughout the jurisdiction, and the lodges are all enjoying prosperity. The Grand Master ruled that the petition of a hotel clerk could be accepted, provided that his duties did not require him to sell liquor.

In the future Commissions to Grand Representatives are to be issued for an unlimited time, or during the pleasure of the Grand Master, and not for only three years as heretofore.

On the Negro question, the following resolution was adopted, the Grand Lodge evidently considering that the Grand Lodge of Washington, after repealing their Negro resolutions, stands on the same ground as before.

Resolved, That the action of the M. W. Grand Master of Delaware, Bro. J. Harmer Rile, in issuing an edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, until this Communication of the Grand Lodge, be approved; and that the said edict be continued in force by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Delaware until the Grand Lodge of Washington shall an-

nul her action with regard to the legitimacy of Negro Masonry, and their right to organize Lodges and Grand Lodges within the jurisdiction of existing Grand Lodges of Ancient Craft Masonry.

In his review of our Proceedings of 1898, Bro. L. H. Jackson gives the amounts expended by our Committee on Benevolence, and then says:

A record of charity worthy of Grand Lodge, and a sum greater, perhaps, according to income, than that given by any other Grand Lodge in the world. We have frequently noted with extreme pleasure and admiration the large-heartedness of the truly Masonic charity of our brethren of Canada.

Lodges, 21; members, 2235; increase, 59.

William W. Black, Jr. (Laurel), G.M.

Benjamin F. Bartram (Wilmington), G.S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

89th Communication, Washington, Nov. 8, 1899.

John H. Small, Jr., G.M.

Material progress has been made in the direction of building the new Masonic Temple. A site has been purchased at a cost of about \$50,000, the funds being supplied by contributions and the proceeds of the Fair held in April, 1898.

In the exercise of his prerogative of making a Mason at sight, the Grand Master conferred the degrees on Admiral Schley.

An amendment to the Constitution to allow Past Grand Masters to have individual votes in Grand Lodge was negatived by a vote of 62 to 86.

A proposal to consider the formation of a General Grand Lodge was also voted down.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews our Proceedings of 1898. On Masonry in Mexico, he says:

Since our last report we have received a communication from another "United Grand Lodge of Mexico," at Vera Cruz; also, a paper from the Supreme Council of Mexico, and if Masonry is not in a "terrible tangle," we do not know what to call the condition in that country. We have held our breath for several years in great hopes that matters would soon find their level and good would come out of the turmoil, but since Secretary Canton's death we opine that the soul of the Grand Dieta will soon depart.

Lodges, 25; members, 5579; increase, 267.
 William G. Henderson (Washington), G.M.
 William R. Singleton (Washington), G.S.

ENGLAND.

At the Quarterly Communication held in London on Dec. 6, 1899, the Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master, was in the chair. The sum of one thousand guineas was voted to the Transvaal War Fund. Part of the discussion on the motion is interesting:

The Deputy Grand Master: Brethren—In the absence of Sir Reginald Hanson, P. G. W., I venture to ask you to allow me to move the resolution which stands in his name, and, if I may say so, I think the resolution is of such importance that I am sure it will have the support and sympathy of the whole Masonic body throughout this country, because it conveys in a practical way the universal support, I trust, of all. Had we the great honor and privilege of the presence of the Grand Master amongst us this evening, I feel certain that such a resolution as this would have been moved by His Royal Highness himself. Of course it is open to any one to say whether you approve of the distribution of this sum of one thousand guineas in the way in which it is proposed, but I am quite certain I am echoing the sentiments of all in this room when I move this resolution:

That the sum of one thousand guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to be paid over to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund for distribution in the following proportions:

Four hundred guineas for the wives and children of those serving in South Africa.

Two hundred guineas for the widows and orphans.

Two hundred guineas for the sick and wounded.

Two hundred guineas for the disabled soldiers and sailors.

I feel that the heart of every Mason is with our brave soldiers who are fighting for our country at the present moment. I have great pleasure in moving this resolution that stands in Sir Reginald Hanson's name, and I will ask the Acting Deputy Grand Master to second it.

R. W. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M. P., Acting Deputy Grand Master: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—I have great pleasure in seconding this motion. It is one which will especially appeal to the hearts of all Masons, who are always anxious to take part in and to support any charitable fund arising out of any distress. This is a motion, I am sure, that commends itself to the hearts of all Masons throughout the country, and I hope that it will meet with universal approbation.

V. W. Brother R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., P. Dep. Grand Registrar: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—No one will

suppose, I am sure, that in proposing an amendment to this motion in Grand Lodge I wish in any way to oppose the amount which is to be given; on the contrary I should not have objected if the amount proposed to Grand Lodge had been ten times as much. The only amendment I have to propose is as to the distribution of the fund, and I wish you to consider how this sum should be laid out. There is very considerable difficulty to be encountered with regard to the way in which the various Transvaal funds should be appropriated. Every one of the soldiers, sailors, and officers who have left this country for the front have left behind them some sort of a home, however humble it may be, but the question arises whether some part should not be appropriated to those who have lost their homes in the Colonies. Our brethren in Natal have been losing their homes and farms, and have also taken up arms and been a great power, and, I believe, are the means of saving the people of this country, and I think if we were to overlook our brethren in Natal who are making every effort for this country, if they were not to take part in our charity, when this fact reaches them out there it will have a great effect upon them. There I think it would be of great advantage if they were to be allowed to take part in the reception of this fund. There may be some difficulty as to how it is to be appropriated, and how far the Mansion House Fund can be associated in this object. I venture to think we might make an important alteration in the terms of the motion, and I would venture to move, "That the sum of One Thousand Guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the Transvaal War Fund, and that it be referred to the Board of Benevolence for distribution to such Transvaal War Fund, and in such proportions as they in their discretion may think fit." That would enable the Board to see how the funds stand. At present some fund for Natal only reaches the miserable amount of £5,000, and I think we should ear-mark our contribution. A good many suggestions have been made, but I do feel very strongly indeed that when we have so many funds—I do not make invidious comparisons—but I consider that when those people are doing so much good in Natal we should show how we appreciate what they are doing. When their farms are lost and their homes are gone we should do our share in assisting them. I beg to propose the amendment.

V. W. Brother the Rev. C. J. Mantyn, P. G. Chaplain: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment, because I consider that no distinction should be made whether the widows of soldiers were married on the strength or not.

W. Brother Lennox Browne, P. Dep. G. D. of C.: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—I feel that we should recognize the services of all these people and not create any dissension among them. I would ask that this resolution be passed, and I should leave the distribution entirely in the hands of the Board of Benevolence.

V. W. Brother R. D. M. Littler, Q. C.: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—The amendment I propose is in these

terms: That the sum of One Thousand Guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the Board of Benevolence for distribution to such Transvaal War Funds and in such proportions as they in their discretion may think fit.

W. Brother J. Emilius Le Feuvre, Past Grand Deacon: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—I support it. There are very many wives and widows who are not recognized as such by the authorities, and I am sure that Grand Lodge will not be satisfied unless this fund is distributed for the relief of distress of those who are not formally on the establishment. I would ask if words could not be added in order to designate carefully what we mean by “wives and widows”—what we tonight understand by the phrase. What we intend is, all those relatives of soldiers who are not on the establishment. There is no necessity to propose a rider with the specific words, but if that is the understanding of Grand Lodge I am perfectly satisfied.

Brother the Rev. F. M. Bethune Norman-Lee: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master—May I call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the claim of one class which has hardly been recognized as yet? I plead on behalf of the wives and widows of the officers. I know you will say at once that we Masons can have no class distinctions; we are Freemasons and we recognize everyone as an equal and as entitled to help whether he be an officer or a private, and the wife or widow whether she is an officer's or a soldier's. We know of the dire straits which the wives and widows of young officers are in. We know that Col. Gildea has started a special fund for the wives and widows of officers who have gone forth to fight the battle of their country. I can tell you of personal cases of ladies brought up in every luxury who have been left in great need and who know hardly how they shall go on. It is on behalf of these that I appeal that some small portion of this munificent donation shall go to them. The soldiers, too, will be glad to have a portion of this given to the officers' widows. If you can see your way to let officers' widows and wives, who are in distress, participate in this fund, I think it would be right.

The Deputy Grand Master: I rather gather from the amendment which was moved and seconded that it meets with general approval. I think it should be left to the consideration of the Board of Benevolence as to how the fund should be distributed. I think also in sending this fund the Grand Secretary might point out that we wish it to be also for the widows and wives and orphans not on the strength. (Hear, hear). I think I am right in interpreting your views in this way. I certainly think there should be no class distinction and at the Board of Benevolence that will, no doubt, be considered in sending the sum up to the Mansion House Fund. I have, therefore, no hesitation in withdrawing my motion, and I put the amendment: “That the sum of One Thousand Guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the Transvaal War Fund, and that it be referred to the Board of Benevo-

lence for distribution to such Transvaal War Fund, and in such proportions as they in their discretion may think fit."

FLORIDA.

71st Communication, Jacksonville, Jan. 16, 1900.

Silas B. Wright, G.M.

In the excellent address of the Grand Master we find the following:

In Free Masonry, as in other relations in life, practice is better than precept. It is clear that the Worshipful Master must be what he desires his brethren to become. If he finds a lack of interest or want of life in the lodge, he must set himself to restore it or to infuse new life into the institution. His guiding star in this work will be the oft-proved principle, that "like begets like." Enthusiasm can only be aroused by enthusiasm. I am convinced that in many cases the languishing condition of our lodges is directly traceable to the slack, imperfect and oft-times improper manner in which the officers perform their duties.

It is very unfortunate for Masonry that there are a few brethren who think that they must be funny and attempt jokes at the candidate. They delight in approaching a candidate with remarks which to them are excruciatingly humorous. It is unnecessary to repeat their catch phrases. You all know them. None are new or original, but all are un-Masonic. They tend to destroy in advance the beautiful lessons sought to be conveyed.

The lectures of Free Masonry have been compiled with an earnest desire to impress wise and important truths. To have their serious contemplation burlesqued by thoughtless remarks and innuendo is embarrassing to the candidate and distasteful to the craft in general. The degrees of Masonry are too serious for such attempted witticisms, brethren. See to it that all such remarks are avoided and that all lodge ceremonies are conducted in a manner and spirit to convey the impression sought in the lecture. Let us not be over-anxious to increase our membership, but keep up the standard of requirements that the individual character of our members will reflect credit on our lodges. Mankind will judge us by our standard, and that standard is set by the individual members of the Order.

Four new lodges were organised.

Lodges, 147; members, 4321; increase, 134.

Silas B. Wright (DeLand), G.M.

Wilber P. Webster (Jacksonville), G.S.

GEORGIA.

113th Communication, Macon, Oct. 31, 1899.

William A. Davis, G.M.

Their local law says that in a Masonic trial "near relatives of the accused" cannot vote. The Grand Master was asked to define the term "near relatives," and he did so by invoking the aid of the common law of the land, ruling that a brother related to the accused, to the Fourth Degree, either by consanguinity or affinity, was barred from voting in his case.

A committee was appointed to formulate some plan for the erection and maintenance of a Masonic Home.

A collection was taken up in aid of the Georgia Industrial Home for friendless children, which realized \$224.20.

It was resolved that in future special memorial services should not be held, and that memorial services should be confined to the report of the Committee on Memorials.

The Grand Master urges the importance of united effort in the prosecution of the labors of the hour, and in the conclusion of his brilliant address we find the following paragraph:

In our boast of antiquity and in our pride of ancestry, we are too prone to pause and linger in the lap of the past. We are too prone to rest on the laurels which our forefathers so worthily won. They contended for principles which they defended with their blood. Without a stain upon their escutcheon, they have been committed to our keeping. Duty demands that we should accept the charge, take up the work, and push it to a still greater degree of perfection. We are stupid, indeed, if we are not wiser than our ancestors. We have the accumulated knowledge of years, which they did not possess. If the dead of but fifty years ago could rise from their graves and revisit the earth, they would not understand nor comprehend even the names of the great discoveries in the practicability of steam and electricity, which have circled the world with light, brought communities in closer contact, and made conversational conventions of nations as easy and practical as the assemblage of this Grand Lodge, in which we sit to-day. Therefore the time-conquering engine, the wind-defying ship, the quick-answering wire, are the agencies which God has placed in our hands for the fraternization of the earth, the development of the social relations, and the spread of the Gospel of peace.

Bro. W. S. Ramsey presented an excellent report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1898 receives kind attention.

Lodges, 430 ; members, 19,332 ; increase, 771.

William A. Davis (Macon), G.M.

W. A. Wolihin (Macon), G.S.

IDAHO.

32nd Communication, Boise, Sept. 12, 1899.

George H. Storer, G.M.

The Grand Master reports a prosperous year and he gives the brethren some good advice on the selection of members.

Our Holy and Ancient Order is growing in Idaho as it has never grown before. The strong arm of brotherly love and fraternal greeting is reaching out in every part of the State. As we travel in the northern counties we behold the humble home of the Brother Mason out in the forests and on the farms, and similar conditions exist in the southeastern counties, and here in the western part of the State we again find the homes of our brethren dotted here and there amid the beautiful villages, towns and cities of a populous and prosperous people.

The promise of increased prosperity in the near future exacts from the craft a large measure of caution. The popularity of a fraternal society may easily become a source of danger. Masonry, in this jurisdiction, is growing with sufficient rapidity, and care should be taken in the selection of candidates in order that we do not receive any unworthy material into our sacred institution. We ought to teach more earnestly that those who become Masons do not become so through any personal motives, but to practice its principles and maintain it in its ancient integrity. Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry was originally intended for the few whose intelligence was such as would enable them to appreciate its beauties, and whose morals were such as would enable them to exemplify its virtues. Though not another Mason should ever be made, we should guard our doors securely against those who seek to wear our badge for mercenary purposes and whose daily lives of debauchery, profanity and vulgarity give the lie to their professions of faith in the tenets of our craft.

They have a Grand Lodge Orphan Fund of \$21,960, and an Interest Orphan Fund of \$7,520, out of which relief was granted during the year to the amount of \$894.00.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

This Grand Lodge appears to have had some difficulty in carrying out their very stringent rule against non-affiliation, and a further effort is to be made.

Whereas: This Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communication in 1897, provided, by resolution, that Masons holding dimits

who had not affiliated with any lodge within this jurisdiction, should, within six months from and after the adoption of such resolution, petition the lodge within the jurisdiction of which they reside for affiliation; and in default thereof should be proceeded against even to expulsion; and

Whereas: Said resolution has not been carried into effect through the negligence of the officers of the constituent lodges, now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That the Grand Master of this jurisdiction be and he is hereby directed to notify each and every Master of the constituent lodges within this jurisdiction that they and each of them must see that said resolution is strictly enforced; and that they must by diligent search and inquiry discover who are non-affiliates within his jurisdiction; and in default of such non-affiliates making application for membership in some lodges within this jurisdiction, require such Master of lodges, under penalty of expulsion, to cause his Junior Warden to at once prefer charges against such dimitted and non-affiliates, and enforce the resolution of the Grand Lodge aforesaid; and in case of refusal or neglect of such Master to carry out said resolution of the Grand Lodge, then the Grand Master shall remove such Master from office; and on default of any lodge to carry out and enforce said resolution, then the Charter of such defaulting lodge shall be arrested by the Grand Master.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Fred G. Mock. Canada for 1898 has a good notice. In his opening remarks he says:

Our affiliation law has been assailed from every point of view and we have found but few encouraging words from any source. Masonic writers everywhere term it an "unwise and unjust law."

The Grand Lodge of Peru has again returned the Great Light to its altars and there is peace among the American Grand Lodges that recognized them.

The Grand Lodge of Washington has rescinded its action in the matter of "Negro Masonry" and congratulations are due the brethren of our sister on the west for this wise and timely step. I would ask you, therefore, to join with me in singing that soul-stirring melody, "All Coons Look Alike to Me," especially so-called Masons of African descent.

Lodges, 29; members, 1143; decrease, 9.

John C. Muerman (Moscow), G.M.

Theophilus W. Randall (Boise), G.S.

ILLINOIS.

60th Communication, Chicago, Oct. 3, 1899.

Edward Cook, G.M.

The address of the Grand Master deals in a very able manner with a large number of different matters, as is

necessarily the case in so extensive a jurisdiction. Five Schools of Instruction were held, with an attendance of 952. This method of instruction is much appreciated. A great improvement is noticeable in the work. The Grand Master disapproved of the use of robes and other paraphernalia, and he finds that increased interest and prosperity has resulted from dropping these superfluities. On rotation in office he says:

The custom which formerly prevailed in many lodges of retaining the same brother as Worshipful Master for a dozen years or more, has been followed in many cases, and especially in our larger cities, by the opposite extreme of electing a new Master every year. When one extreme is thus followed by another, it is usually true that both are bad, and the case under consideration forms no exception to this maxim.

The custom first referred to produced a condition of monotony and lethargy, if not of deterioration and dry rot, which was destructive to growth and discouraging to zeal, ambition and effort. It was natural and proper that the doctrine of rotation in office and the laudable desire to give the young men a chance should bring about a reaction, but unhappily this reaction has been carried so far as in turn to call for correction.

When the rule of "advancing the line" regularly every year becomes practically inflexible, the lodge in a large measure loses its right of free choice and becomes a slave to custom. I would not, if I had the power, interfere with the right of every lodge to select its own officers unrestricted save by the laws of the Grand Lodge, but I do desire to emphasize the fact that when a habit or custom such as the one mentioned becomes the dominant factor, the members cease to exercise their constitutional rights and merely register the choice of the Worshipful Master, who years before placed a brother in line by appointing him to a minor office.

One of the detrimental effects of this custom is that it tends to impress upon those in line the idea that the ability to repeat the ritual and go through the regular routine is all that is necessary to qualify them for the highest honor in the gift of the lodge, and the practical result is that every Master becomes a Past Master, just when he begins to get a true conception of the duties of his station. The office of Worshipful Master of a Masonic lodge is a position of trust and honor. To discharge its duties properly should be the laudable ambition of every brother who has been chosen to the place. The ability and experience to perform these duties adequately can come only through study and effort and after the lapse of more time than the custom here criticised permits. To prove this proposition nothing further is needed than the evidence of the Past Masters who have become such through the operation of this rule.

It is to be hoped that the golden mean which will prevent monotonous service on the one hand and break the rule of

annual rotation on the other, can be reached by our lodges through a more general exercise of that freedom of ballot which impels every member to vote for the one he honestly thinks best fitted for the place.

Two of their best beloved Past Grand Masters died during the year, James A. Hawley and Dewitt C. Creger. We had an unbounded admiration for Bro. Creger. A seance with him and his Committee on Jurisprudence was the treat of a lifetime. He was the guiding spirit in Grand Lodge for a number of years. His energy was superabundant, his ability was unquestioned and his love for the Craft and for all its members shone forth brightly in all his actions. We can easily understand the love and respect in which he was held by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance and the deep regret manifested at his death. To us it comes as a personal loss.

The Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home at Macon each received a donation of \$1,000.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

The report on Correspondence by Bro. Joseph Robbins is again in the topical form. On the subject of Mexican Masonry, which he calls "this kaleidascopic hybrid," Bro. Robbins gives numerous extracts from other reports and sums up as follows:

We think no one can go over the ground covered by our symposium on this topic without being impressed with the idea that in Mexico, at least, the Gran Dieta Symbolica is regarded as being on its last legs. The activity of rival bodies claiming to be governing bodies in Symbolic Masonry, the adhesion of the former Grand Master of the Gran Dieta to a seceding and expelled body, and, what is more significant, the recent treaty entered into by the Supreme Council of Mexico and the Grand Lodge having its seat at Vera Cruz—a confession, it seems to us, on the part of the former that the project to give the lodges it had created a recognizable status abroad by uniting them all, directly or indirectly, under one diet, has been a failure—all indicate the general anxiety to make other arrangements.

Circumstances established by reliable witnesses are often better evidence than alleged observed facts from the mouths of others, and it is to be hoped that in this instance circumstances really indicate what they seem to and will not prove as disappointing as everything claiming to be veracious written history originating among Mexican Masons—so-called.

It is a consummation devoutly to be wished that the unlineal, unsavory and uncanny aggregation known as the Gran

Dieta Symbolica, which has queered the perceptions, if not the consciences, of so many American Masons and made them the apologists, if not defenders, of practices which, on the part of a body of known lawful Masons would by common consent place it at once without the pale of the Fraternity, should speedily pass into oblivion.

Still, with its passing the evils which its existence have uncovered rather than created will not be cured. They came to its lodges as a heritage from their former parentage, attracting the attention of the outside world only when the governing body which tolerated or cultivated them attempted by duress to so consolidate its power as to present itself to the Grand Lodges of the world as a supreme governing authority in symbolic Masonry. The attempt of the Grand Diet to demonstrate the exclusiveness of its jurisdiction by coercing unwilling lodges, brought about the disclosures which wrought its ruin.

The explosion did much more than this. It demonstrated to the world that in the alleged Masonry of countries where the Grand Lodge system does not prevail, the men (and women) made in lodges not of Grand Lodge parentage fall of being lawful Masons in something more than a technical sense; that not only are they clandestine when tried by the law which governs the relations of the lodge to the Grand Lodge—the only governing body known to the original plan—but that they are free from the constraint of those landmarks which are rooted in the unwritten law, without which the possession of the individual cannot be identified as Masonry no matter under what rite he has received it.

The passing of the Gran Dieta, therefore, will still leave the Masons of the United States confronted with dangers that will require their constant watchfulness, because so long as American Masons have relatives and friends engaged in business in Mexico—and the number will increase from year to year—who for any reasons, business or social, have entangled themselves with the alleged Masonry of that republic, so long will they have advocates on this side of the boundary who will endeavor to give that variegated sodality a recognizable status.

We see no real remedy for this danger but to adopt the suggestions of Bro. Ruckle, of Indiana, and Bro. Eggleston, of Virginia—hinted at also by Bro. Perkins, of Vermont—to regard the republic as open territory, Masonically, as Bro. Eggleston correctly says it is "from any proper standpoint"—for the rival Grand Lodges there existing, and their constituents are all either derived from, or have merged themselves in those representatives of dissent, the supreme councils and the system they administer. No other suggestion has so far been made which promises to give the faction torn jurisdiction on the other side of our southern boundary a "Masonry" which can be recognized by many adherents of the original plan without doing violence to their consciences.

Lodges, 723; members, 55,120; increase, 962.

Charles F. Hitchcock (Peoria), G.M.

J. H. C. Dill (Bloomington), G.S.

INDIANA.

78th Communication, Indianapolis, May 23, 1899.

Simeon S. Johnson, G.M.

On the subject of the more general perusal of the reports on Correspondence, the following report was adopted:

These reports are by far the most important Masonic educators produced by the press of the present age, and are so recognized to-day by the most distinguished Masonic students and authors of England and the continent of Europe. A Mason who once begins to read them will most anxiously await their annual appearance, and profit by them as he cannot do by any other means. One book from our public libraries is read and returned, and taken out and read, again and again, until hundreds have become familiar with its contents and its teachings. If earnest and zealous Masons would pursue such a course with these Reports, a similar result would be obtained, to the upbuilding and advancement of the Fraternity wherever the practice should prevail. Your committee cannot at this time see any other way to secure the desired end than to recommend this practice with all the force of language at the moment's command.

The use of Ciphers was strongly condemned.

Resolved, That the making, sale, purchase or use of any cipher work in this Grand Jurisdiction is in violation of Masonic usage. Any Worshipful Master who may permit the use or exhibition of, or any reference to, any cipher, key or guide, or any sheet or part of the same, in the lodge room, or allow the same to be used in the instruction of any candidate, and any officer, acting officer or participant in the work, who shall use, exhibit or consult such cipher, key or guide, or any part of the same, in the lodge room, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be suspended or expelled. The Grand Master is hereby authorized and required, in the exercise of his discretion, after investigation, to suspend the Master of any lodge violating the provisions of this resolution, and further, to suspend the functions of any offending lodge if necessary, to secure the enforcement of this edict, pending due trial or the further orders of this Grand Lodge.

An application for an Army lodge was refused.

P.G.M. Simeon P. Gillett, the faithful representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, assured the Grand Lodge of Indiana that Canadian Freemasons rejoice in the prosperity of the Craft "wheresoever dispersed around the globe."

A copy of McDonald's History of Masonry in Indiana and also a copy of Smythe's Indiana Masonic Law

are to be furnished by the Grand Lodge to each lodge in the jurisdiction free of charge.

Bro. Nicholas R. Ruckle reports on Correspondence, and reviews our Proceedings of 1898.

Lodges, 625; members, 30, 901; increase, 947.

William Geake (Fort Wayne), G.M.

William H. Smythe (Indianapolis), G.S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

26th Communication, Wynnewood, August 8, 1899.

Henry Clay Nash, G.M.

In the address of the Grand Orator we find the following extract from one of the old Lectures, explaining the dedication of lodges to the Holy Saints John:

Q: Our lodges being finished, furnished and decorated with ornaments, furniture and jewels, to whom were they consecrated?

A. To God.

Q. Thank you, brother; and can you tell me to whom they were first dedicated?

A. To Noah, who was saved in the Ark.

Q. And by what name were the Masons then called?

A. Noachidae, Sages, or Wise Men.

Q. To whom were the lodges dedicated during the Mosaic dispensation?

A. To Moses, the chosen of God, and Solomon, the son of David, King of Israel, who was an eminent patron of the craft.

Q. And under what name were the Masons known during that period?

A. Under the name of DoInysiacs, Geometricians, or Masters in Israel.

Q. But as Solomon was a Jew and died long before the promulgation of Christianity, to whom were they dedicated under the Christian dispensation?

A. From Solomon the patronage passed to St. John the Baptist.

Q. And under what name were they known after the promulgation of Christianity?

A. Under the name of Essenes, Architects or Freemasons.

Q. Why were lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist?

A. Because he was the forerunner of Christ, and by preaching repentance and humiliation, drew the first parallel of gospel.

Q. Had St. John the Baptist any equal?

A. He had; St. John the Evangelist.

Q. Why is he said to be equal to the Baptist?

A. Because he finished by his learning what the other began by his zeal, and thus drew a second line parallel to the former ever since which time Freemasons' lodges in all Christian

countries have been dedicated to the one or the other or both of these worthy and worshipful men.

They expect to have an Orphans' Home in the near future.

Lodges, 92; members, 3,625; increase, 143.

P. B. Arthur (Leon), G. M.

Joseph S. Murrow (Atoka), G. S.

IOWA.

56th Communication, Mason City, June 6, 1899.

Crom. Bowen, G. M.

No disturbing elements have arisen, peace and harmony prevail, and much work has been done by the lodges. On the subject of non-affiliation the Grand Master has the following very sensible remarks:

The question, however, is, Should we undertake to compel Masons by legislation to retain membership in particular lodges? If we should succeed, would the Order be benefited thereby? We would be the gainer by the amount of the few dollars we have thereby compelled them to contribute, and our annual returns would undoubtedly show a larger gain in membership. But after all, is it worth our while? I take it few there be who thus demit because of an inability to pay dues. I assume that every subordinate lodge would, without the asking, cheerfully remit the dues of all such. The large majority of those becoming non-affiliates are of those who do not believe that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Many, perhaps, became Masons through purely selfish motives, hoping to use it as a stepping-stone to further some ambition, political or otherwise, and becoming convinced of their error, avail themselves of the right to demit; of such a class did the poet write:

"Constant at church and change his gains were sure,
His givings rare, save farthings to the poor.

Such men are no benefit to Masonry, and the individual lodge is in most cases better off without than with them.

What Masonry wants is men who are wedded to the principles and tenets of the Order, men of whom it may be truly said:

"Godlike his unwaried bounty flows
First loves to do, then loves the good he does."

Twenty-five such men banded together would make a better Masonic lodge than half a hundred who, though abundantly able, begrudge the small amount required each year to keep up the expenses of the lodge and meet the demands of charity.

"To stretch the liberal hand
And pour the stream of gladness
O'er mine y's withered strand—
To cheer the heart of sadness—
To dry the orphan's tear
And soothe the heart nigh broken—

To breathe in sorrow's ear
 Kind words in kindness spoken—
 This is the Mason's part
 The Mason's bounden duty,
 This rears the Mason's heart
 In wisdom, strength and beauty."

In this connection it may be said that there is seemingly a growing tendency, to some extent, to draw away from the ancient usages and customs of our institution, and to compete with other and more modern societies for membership.

A proposal to charter a lodge of Iowa Masons in the army at Manila was negatived.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted providing that Grand Officers and officers of subordinate lodges may resign, but no members shall be entitled to the honors of a Past Master until he shall have served one full year as Worshipful Master.

Canada for 1898 receives a kindly notice from Bro. J. C. W. Coxe, Chairman of Correspondence.

Lodges, 486; members, 28,430; increase, 369.

Thomas Lambert (Sabula), G.M.

T. S. Parvin (Cedar Rapids), G.S.

KANSAS.

4th Communication, Topeka, Feb. 21, 1900.

Henry C. Loomis, G. M.

Three general Schools of Instruction were held during the year and four new lodges were formed.

On the subject of reimbursement for relief moneys the following rules were adopted as a Standing Regulation:

1. It is the bounden duty of any lodge and all Master Masons in this jurisdiction to render to any true and worthy affiliated Master Mason who, without fault on his part, is in distress, such assistance as his necessities may require and their abilities permit, without reference to his place of abode or the location of the lodge to which he belongs.

2. In the absence of an explicit agreement, no lodge has any claim on any other lodge in this jurisdiction, for reimbursement for sums advanced as charity to, or in behalf of, a member of such lodge or his family.

3. As under our law, each lodge is required to have a Committee on Charity, consisting of the Master and Wardens, "who shall dispense the charities of the lodge in such manner as its regulations may require." (By-law 85) therefore, such committee, or at least the chairman thereof, ought, in all cases, to be consulted by the officers of any other lodge intending to make a claim on the charity funds of a lodge.

The express and unequivocal consent of such committee, or of the lodge, should be obtained before any outlay of moneys be made for, or on account of, such other lodge.

Their Home has 35 inmates, and the expenses for the year amounted to \$5,755.24.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. John C. Postlethwaite, and he gives numerous extracts from our Proceedings of 1899. We take pleasure in approving his remarks on non-affiliation:

We do not believe in the principle of enforced affiliation. There are many instances throughout the world where men have become Masons and are not in sympathy with its teachings, who have quietly taken their dimt and ceased to be identified with the Order. Others, entertaining or acquiring religious ideas which in their judgment are inconsistent with the teachings of Masonry, have quietly dropped out, neither of which should be forced to affiliate with the lodge, and being conscientious in their belief, ought not to be placed under the ban of expulsion. True, there are many cases of brethren who sponge their way through Masonry. There are brethren, non-affiliates, who are always ready to be present at a banquet or other entertainment given by Masons, but are never ready to bear the heat and burden of the lodge, and who never express in thought, word or deed any of the principles of Masonry. Non-affiliation should be cured by acts of kindness and true courtesy, and the brother who is forced by a stringent law to become affiliated against his will, will never be of any benefit to the lodge except the few paltry pennies that he may pay into the treasury for dues during the year.

Lodges, 362; members, 20,740; increase, 756.

Charles J. Webb (Topeka), G. M.

KENTUCKY.

100th Communication, Louisville, Oct. 17, 1899.

James E. Wilhelm, G. M.

General prosperity prevails. The membership has increased and the finances of the lodges are in a healthy condition, the number of delinquent lodges being less than for many years past. The "chain-letter" system of applying for relief was deservedly discountenanced by the Grand Master.

Their Past Masters have only a "collective" vote in Grand Lodge, and a proposal was made to give them individual votes, which proposal did not prevail.

The needed improvements in the "Home" have been made, the children are being properly instructed, and

the sick are patiently nursed and skilfully treated. The subscriptions to endow an infirmary and home for aged and infirm Masons, in connection with their Widows' and Orphans' Home have reached a total of \$52,105.

The special committee on the Inspection of Lodges presented a valuable report, from which we make the following extract, but the regulations proposed by the committee were indefinitely postponed:

There can be no question that some plan of inspection for our subordinate lodges is needed, and badly needed. Secretaries are too often inefficient, and Masters are too often incompetent. Records are kept in a slovenly manner, minutes made on loose sheets of paper and imperfectly entered on the lodge book, or not at all; the Book of Constitutions is ignored entirely, or left to accumulate dust in the home of the Secretary or Master. The Grand Secretary's office is a model of neatness and accuracy; the blanks and instructions sent out from it are complete and explicit, yet neither the example, nor precept, nor the assistance given seems to enable Secretaries of subordinate lodges to make correct reports to Grand Lodge, or prepare properly the papers in cases on appeal. Too often the Master, ignorant of fundamentals in Masonry, commits grievous errors or omits necessary proceedings, so that the lodge is put to the expense of a new trial, or else an unworthy brother goes unwhipped of justice to become an eyegore to the public, and an excrescence on the body of Freemasonry.

These errors are sometimes the result of carelessness or indolence, but more often of honest and ignorant effort to do the right thing. In either case, any scheme of betterment must proceed on the assumption that the delinquent officers are willing to be instructed, provided the means of information are properly presented to them. They have, it is true, access to the Book of Constitutions and the circulars of the Grand Secretary; so has every child in this commonwealth access to text-books, but few of them will learn without a teacher. Oral instruction is necessary, and every lodge in the State should have an opportunity to receive it. This oral instruction should be chiefly directed to the Master and Secretaries of the lodges, and should apply to the technical duties of these officers, and the "landmarks" of the secret work.

In working out this plan these are essentials:

1. The instruction must be free to all, and accessible to all.
2. The teacher must be competent. Taking the latter proposition first, it is necessary to consider what shall be taught. This might be briefly stated as follows: (1.) How to conduct business for the lodge; (2) the prominent features of the secret work. The teacher, then, must be something more than a mere ritualist. He must be able to explain the best methods of keeping accounts between Secretary and Treasurer, and with the individual members of the lodge. More trouble in

lodges is due to disputes on money matters than to every other cause. The accurate recording and filing away of bills against the lodge, the proper conduct of trials, the recording of testimony, the preparation and authentication of transcripts for appeals and other official documents, should be taught.

To these qualifications he must add a knowledge of the secret work, based on scholarship and meditation, and developed into philosophic harmony of language. His work must be more than parrot repetition of unmeaning phrases—it must be the perfect clothing of unmutilated thought. He must be ready with a reason for the faith within him, and must teach where other teachers may condemn and criticize. If his "work" is not the best, his pupils should have a chance to know that fact. In the "landmarks" of the three degrees he must be proficient, and must be able to explain the reason of every step, the philosophy of every gesture. Freemasonry is a philosophy of morals—a religion veiled by the symbols of an operative Craft. It is the science of universal thought, the socialism of universal action. The explanation of its smallest ceremony has beneath it a deeper explanation, and beneath that there is still a profounder meaning. No man can claim, justly, that he knows all the learning and philosophy of even the first degree of Masonry. The man who is a ritualist, and nothing more, does not even know that his explanations do not explain. He can only say "I so received it" or "it looks better than the old way." Many of them would say—and some of them have said—"the book says so." No Mason who respected his obligation would ever write or print a "book;" no Mason ever has done so without writing himself down a liar and a perjurer; and still Grand Master Thompson said in his address (p. 18):

"The use of improper and unauthorized books is made a high offense by Regulation No. 73, and yet I have received information which leads me to believe that Master Masons are in the habit of selling such books to uninformed brethren and professing to have the sanction of Grand Lodge for so doing. I recommend that a regulation be adopted making it an offence for any Master to sell or give away such books in this jurisdiction, or to bring any such book into a lodge room, and affixing the penalty of expulsion for any Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason found guilty of so doing."

This Grand Lodge has, from its birth until now, consistently refused to adopt or permit any system of "book work," and the late College of Custodians emphatically repudiated a proposition looking toward that result. There is no authorized book containing the Kentucky work, and there never was. Kentucky Masonry has not, and will not, set the seal of its approbation on any Judas Iscariot who has bartered his soul for thirty pieces of silver. Therefore the Masonic teacher must be one who can know the false work and reject it.

Then we are confronted with the fact that few such men exist—possibly there is not one in this jurisdiction. The same

man is not often accurate in business details and philosophic in thought. The perfect Secretary is hardly ever an efficient Master. Different qualities of mind are needed in the two stations, and the Masonic teacher must possess the faculties of both. He must be able to instruct in minute details; he must be able to elucidate the outgrowth of profound principles. No such man was ever known to the writer of this, nor does he live in hopes of ever seeing him.

But if such a perfect Mason existed how would he be able to reach all the lodges in this jurisdiction? The Grand Lodge can take nothing from the funds of our Home for any purpose; it ought not, it must not, for the salvation of our children is paramount to all else. The city lodges could afford to pay the expense of this instruction; but the weak lodges in the country, who most need help of this kind, are not easily accessible. The cost of visiting them would be great, and they are less able to bear even a smaller burden. Nor would it be just that they should pay more for the same services than their more fortunate and wealthier brethren. Grand Lecturers and Grand Orators have the same human nature as other people who are not so grand, but possibly more useful. They would prefer to visit a prosperous lodge, where the work would be exemplified with robes and magic lanterns, and a banquet would follow their exhausting labor of looking on. We are told that even ministers of the gospel prefer to visit where the chickens are fattest and the milk and honey most abundant.

Then if Mahomet cannot go to all the mountains, why not let all the mountains come to Mahomet? It can be done without costing the Grand Lodge anything or putting the subordinate lodges to any expense whatever. Every lodge in Kentucky has a right to send its representative to the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

These brethren are here from two to four nights during the session, with no business to occupy their time. Why should they not be instructed then? Some lodges in Louisville would no doubt furnish a hall free of charge, and the meetings would be instructive and entertaining to all who came. If any one failed to come his lodge could know the reason why, when he returned to them. If any one failed to learn he could blame no one but himself.

This brings us again to the question of the teacher. It has been said that no one man possesses all the attributes of the perfect teacher. But two men may in some degree approximate what is desired. There are two nights open for this purpose. Let the Grand Secretary himself, or by his deputy, have charge of this school of instruction on one night. It would save him much time and worry to have competent Secretaries in subordinate lodges, and he could well afford to give one night to the instruction of delegates. Let the Grand Master himself or some brother appointed by him, have charge of this school on the other night. Let the lectures given not consist of platitudes about "the Mystic tie," or the recitation of doggerel verses, but of real instruction. Let every one present prepare himself to ask pertinent questions, and let

the best minds in this grand jurisdiction be there to criticise, and, if necessary, to condemn. The two teachers should be indicated a year in advance, and the brethren desiring information could from time to time send them written questions to be answered before the school in open session. These two nights, which are now wasted, could thus be profitably employed.

After a rest of six years, Bro. James W. Staton resumes the correspondence report, which covers 148 pages and deals with all the matters arising in the Craft in an able manner. Our proceedings of 1898 are accorded favorable mention.

Lodges, 468; members, 18,790; increase, 388.

John A. Ramsey (Owingsville), G.M.

H. B. Grant (Louisville), G.S.

LOUISIANA.

88th Communication, New Orleans, Feb. 12, 1900.

A. C. Allen, G. M.

Last year the Grand Master had no prosperity to report, but this year it is very different. We rejoice at the fact, and extend our hearty congratulations. Individual efforts, uniting in a just cause, can accomplish much, even in the face of many difficulties.

I was then not unmindful of the serious burden which they were compelled to bear. I appreciated the fact that trials were great, and their resources comparatively meager; but knowing the moral timber out of which their characters were made—knowing their courage and their fortitude, I did not hesitate to request them to assume an additional financial responsibility in order that our cause might be carried beyond the shadows which threatened financial distress. Without an apparent dissenting voice they accepted the task. And right loyally have they responded with the fruits of their labor. The "brighter era," then devoutly wished for, is dawning; the relief has come, and, I believe, come to stay, brought about by the individual efforts and sacrifice of the Craftsmen of this jurisdiction alone. The numerical strength of the Order has increased remarkably over that of the year 1898; the bonded debt of this Grand Body has decreased far beyond our expectations; the subordinate lodges have been active and vigorous in their work, and the spirit of Masonry among us has been given a new impetus indicative of larger and broader results in the future.

Up to the time of this writing one hundred and twenty-three subordinate lodges have made returns.

These returns show an increase of one hundred and twenty-four members over the number shown by the returns of 1898.

I submit that this is the most favorable showing made for many years.

The financial improvements inaugurated last year have borne good fruit. Within the year the bonded indebtedness has been decreased by over \$12,000. The expenditures were less than in 1898 by about \$2,000, and a floating debt of about \$3,000 has been paid off.

Four new lodges were formed.

It was resolved that the time had not yet arrived for resumption of fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington. The repeal of the obnoxious "Negro" resolutions was accompanied with a declaration of principles, which, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, left the matter much the same as before.

Lodges, 138; members, 5,962; increase, 124.

Robert H. Cage (New Orleans), G. M.

Richard Lambert (New Orleans), G. S.

MAINE.

80th Communication, Portland, May 2, 1899.

Joseph A. Locke, G. M.

According to the following decision of the Grand Master, their Constitution will not allow the conferring of the third degree on members of foreign jurisdictions, even as an act of courtesy:

Under the Constitution of this Grand Lodge every candidate who receives the third degree in a lodge thereby becomes a member of said lodge, and the Secretary shall record his name upon the roll of membership. (Constitution, Section 111.) I call attention to this decision, which I have given several times, as lodges in this state have been requested by lodges in Canada and in other states, as a matter of courtesy, to confer the second and third degrees for them upon parties who had received the E. A. degree in their several lodges.

Masonic recognition was extended to the Grand Orient of Belgium, but it was considered inexpedient to recognize the Grand Orient of Portugal.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond continues as reporter on Correspondence, and there is no diminution of his vigor and ability. His reports unquestionably take the lead of all others. Our proceedings of 1898 receive an extensive and very favorable notice. On the use of the

gavel by the Wardens, he has the following remarks in reply to Bro. Barlow, of Connecticut:

In his review of Maine, he says that in Connecticut the Wardens have gavels, and is somewhat surprised at our remarks in relation to this in our review of Arkansas last year. We are very greatly surprised to learn that this is the custom in Connecticut. We would like to have our brother recall the secret portion of the installation of a Master of a lodge, and have him tell us whether the installation therein given does not make the gavel the emblem of supreme authority in the lodge. We would also like to have him read the closing part of the address of Grand Master Havens, and tell us what he meant when he said: "As I surrender to you again this gavel, which, one year ago, you so unanimously placed in my hands," etc. Did not our Most Worshipful Brother mean that he was surrendering the emblem of supreme authority in the Grand Lodge, and, if so, can there be more than one? The fact is, we should not be more surprised to find three Masters presiding at the same time in one lodge, than we should to find three brethren holding the gavel at the same time in the same lodge. We think we shall have to refer this to the ritualists among our brethren on these committees, and to start with, we would like the views of Bro. Cunningham, of Ohio. We have looked into some of the Monitors, and while we do not find the matter frequently mentioned, yet, whenever it is mentioned, the Wardens are spoken of as holding "Truncheons."

On the subject of Masonic Homes, Bro. Drummond says:

And yet, several Grand Lodges have crippled themselves in building Masonic Homes before there was really sufficient demand for them; and when we say "sufficient demand," we mean that as a business matter, the parties can be taken care of at better advantage in the Home than anywhere else. All will admit that it would be utter folly to build a Home for a dozen occupants, but the question where the line is to be drawn is an exceedingly difficult one. There have been instances in which, taking into account the cost of the Home, there has been paid for the support of destitute Masons, more money per annum, than it would cost to maintain them at a first-class hotel. We are not opposed to Homes. We think that when they are needed they are the grandest institutions in the world; but it is true that it is extravagance to maintain them when they are not needed; and yet there is a tendency to do that without stopping to inquire as to whether they are needed or not.

Lodges, 195; members, 22,165; decrease, 26.

Winfield S. Choate (Augusta), G.M.

Stephen Berry (Portland), G. S.

MANITOBA.

24th Communication, Regina, June 14, 1899.

George B. Murphy, G. M.

New lodges have been formed at Dauphin, Yorkton, Roland and Crystal City. A dispensation was also issued for the formation of a lodge at Dawson City in the Yukon District. The attendance at lodges has increased and the work is carefully performed. They have an era of prosperity before them.

On the question of the recognition of the Grand Orient of Belgium, the following report was adopted:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence has carefully examined the documents accompanying the applications of this organization for an exchange of representatives.

By virtue of a treaty made with the Supreme Council of Belgium, on April 4, 1880, it claims to exercise complete control over all Lodges existing in that country, and working the degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. This treaty may be abrogated by either of the contracting parties giving six months' notice.

Under the circumstances your committee does not feel warranted in acceding to the request, and it believes that it should be a settled policy of the Grand Lodge to exchange representatives only with symbolic Grand Lodges having exclusive control over Craft Masonry in the countries where located.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.: That the request of the Grand Orient of Belgium for an exchange of representatives be not granted.

The following report on the Grand Lodge Library was adopted. It looks to us as if the adoption of these recommendations would result in the complete dispersion of the books, at all events of those in the department of fiction.

The Library has been established for a number of years, and the Grand Lodge has not refused at any time to grant freely the funds necessary to purchase books necessary to make up a first-class general and reference library.

Notwithstanding that we have as a result of the efforts of the Librarian and Committee, a most valuable collection of general and Masonic literature, the fact that very little use is made of these gathered treasures is becoming every year more apparent to your committee.

Your Committee considers that wherever the difficulty lies, the present state of things must be changed, and the interest in and usefulness of the library must in some way be evi-

denced. With this object in view, your committee would make the following recommendations, viz.:

1. That no works of fiction be purchased.
2. That the works of fiction now in the library be sent to the District Deputy Grand Masters, to be by them distributed among the lodges of their districts to the best advantage.
3. That all books so distributed be returned to the Librarian, not later than the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge following their distribution.
4. That a number of works of practical utility on Masonry be purchased and supplied to each District Deputy Grand Master, to be handed by him to his successor in office.
5. That the District Deputy Grand Masters constantly impress on the members of the Craft in their districts, the importance of each subscribing to some standard Masonic periodical, a list of which will be furnished by the Librarian.
6. That all brethren visiting Winnipeg consult the various works contained in the Reference Department, such arrangements to be made at the Masonic Temple as will make the Library at all times accessible to such visiting brethren.

The Constitution was revised and is ready for distribution.

Lodges, 63; members, 2870; increase, 200.

John Leslie, Winnipeg), G. M.

William G. Scot (Winnipeg), G. S.

MARYLAND.

113th Communication, Baltimore, Nov. 21, 1899.

Thomas J. Shryock, G. M.

He reports harmony and prosperity.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognised.

Notwithstanding his sore affliction in the loss of his eyesight, Bro. Edward T. Schultz again presents a most interesting and valuable report on Correspondence, on which Canada for 1898 finds a place. In his sketch of "Washington as a Mason" we find the following:

Some of the enemies of Freemasonry have even denied that Washington was a Mason. Others allege that though made a Mason in his youth, he took no interest in Masonry in later life, and others assert that he renounced Masonry. There was recently published in the organ of a so-called Christian Association, a statement "that from 1768 he was practically a seceding Mason," and that he was never Grand Master or Master of a lodge. The falsity of these charges, except that he was never installed Grand Master, can be as easily established as the fact that George Washington did live, or that he was President of the United States.

A lodge of Free Masons was established at Fredericksburg, Va., prior to the year 1750 by Thomas Oxnard, of Boston, Pro-

vincial Grand Master of North America. Subsequently, in 1758, this lodge received a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and at a later period a warrant was received from the Grand Lodge of Virginia as the present Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4. The old records of this lodge are existing and show the following entries:

November 4th, 1752, received of Mr. George Washington for his entrance £2 3s.

March 3d, 1753, George Washington passed Fellow Craft.

August 4th, 1753, George Washington raised Master Mason.

The Bible on which he was obligated and the seal of the lodge are also preserved. The Bible is a small quarto volume and bears date "Cambridge, printed by John Field, printer to the University, 1688."

This record being an original, and having been found in possession of the proper custodians, the lineal descendants of the original lodge, would be held to be evidence in any court of law. Therefore, unless the enemies of our fraternity can show that George Washington did not then live within the jurisdiction of Fredericksburg Lodge, or that there were two persons bearing that name so living at that time, they must yield to the conclusion that as he was born and raised in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, Washington was the individual referred to in these Proceedings.

Washington, at the time of his initiation, lacked about three months of being twenty-one, having been born February 22, 1732. It will be observed from the record, however, that an interval of four months elapsed between his initiation and passing, and the same time intervened between his passing and raising.

Soon after receiving the third degree he was employed by the Governor of Virginia on a most important and delicate mission. He was sent to some French military posts on the Ohio river to demand, in the name of the Governor of Virginia, who was the British King's representative in the territory of which the French had taken possession, that they should at once depart and cease to intrude on the claimed English domain.

He left Williamsburg, the seat of the Virginia Government, on the 30th of November, 1753, taking with him a guide and half-dozen backwoodsmen, and traversing a country little known, held conferences with Indian war chiefs, and the French commandant, and returned after months of hardships and dangers, and made his report to the Governor. This report and his daily journal were published soon after, both in this country and in Europe, and his prudence and diplomacy met with general approbation.

The refusal of the French to evacuate the posts on the Ohio was followed by the contest which is known in history as the French and Indian war, in which our Brother Washington took an active part. During the next six years Washington was engaged in military campaigns and could not have devoted much time to attending at lodge meetings, and from the

meager records kept by the lodge at that period we know but little of his Masonic life for a number of years.

Lodges, 103; members, 8,021; increase, 237.

Thomas J. Shryock (Baltimore), G.M.

Jacob H. Medairy (Baltimore), G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

This Grand Lodge publishes its Proceedings quarterly.

Quarterly Communication, June 14, 1899.

Charles C. Hutchinson, G.M.

The time and manner of dedicating their new Temple was left to the Grand Master with full powers. He prefers a private ceremony rather than a large "parade with its attendant bustle, annoyance, great labor and cost." The cost of a public ceremony is estimated to be at the least \$10,000.

The following appears on the claim of Philadelphia to be the Mother City of Freemasonry in America:

The Recording Secretary called attention to the revival of the absurd pretensions of certain brethren of Pennsylvania that the Masonry of this country had its birth in Philadelphia, or as they proudly expressed it, that Philadelphia was "the Mother City of Freemasonry in America." Outside of "the great State of Pennsylvania," this foolish boast never received much countenance or support, and here, in the little State of Massachusetts, we had come to the conclusion that the silly claim had died with its author. But it appears by the published Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that at the Annual Communication on the 27th of December, 1898, the pretensions were not only repeated, but that one Julius F. Sachse fairly out-Heroded even Brother MacCalla himself, claiming that he (Sachse) produced evidence which "naturally led to the inference that the Constitutions (Franklin's Reprint) were sent by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania which had been set up in Massachusetts, Carolina, and Pennsylvania, and were either within its jurisdiction or at least subordinate to that Right Worshipful Body." Even the assurance of Brother MacCalla scarcely reached the sublime height of claiming that the lodges in Massachusetts were subordinate to the so-called Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania of 1734.

Bro. Nickerson then gives numerous historical facts and personal experiences in tracing the early History of Masonry in America, which are very interesting, but too long for insertion here. He severely criticizes the comments of the Pennsylvania Historian with regard to

the Franklin manuscripts and says that his conclusions are utterly unwarranted by anything in the documents.

Quarterly Communication, Boston, Dec. 13, 1899.

Charles C. Hutchinson, G.M.

Exemplifications were held in 17 Districts, which were attended by a large number of brethren. The rendering of the work and lectures was generally good, in some cases near perfection.

We copy part of the Grand Master's peroration:

As we stand at the close of one period in our Masonic life and on the threshold of another may we not gather new courage and inspiration from the past to strengthen us in meeting the problems of the future?

Our Institution was established here in a time of small things, measured by modern standards, and our fathers had small resources at their command; but their works and words still live as an inspiration to us of to-day, a power to call us to a truer life and give a larger scope to our energies. If we in our day exhibit as much of wisdom, of patient striving, of devotion to the principles of our Institution as did our fathers, we shall have no reason to be ashamed of the record we shall leave. They had difficulties to overcome, adverse criticism even to persecution to encounter, but they had the spirit and qualities to meet and overcome them. Let it be our care that these qualities do not die out in their successors. The present has its claims upon us as had the past upon our predecessors. If the past be glorious and the present happy, how much more glorious and brighter may be the future if we wisely improve present opportunities. The golden age of our fraternity will not lie behind us if we remember that we are the inheritors of everything that has made our Order in the past worthy of the distinction it has enjoyed, and keep before our minds a high ideal of what our fraternity ought to be and a sense of the devoted service it demands from us, in order that its character, influence and benefactions may continue along the lines already laid down. Upon its past activities no human institution can long exist. While we wear the badges of Masonry, let us not neglect to use its working tools.

The new Temple was dedicated on St. John's Day with imposing ceremonies.

At the meeting on March 14, 1900, an amendment to the Constitution to make all District Deputies and Past District Deputies to be Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge was defeated by a vote of 321 to 23.

Lodges, 236; members, 39,871; increase, 537.

Charles T. Gallagher (Boston), G. M.

Serenio D. Nickerson (Boston), G. S.

MICHIGAN.

56th Communication, Detroit, Jan. 23, 1900.

Frank T. Lodge, G. M.

A delegation of the Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Canada were announced as in waiting and desirous of visiting the Grand Lodge, whereupon the Grand Master appointed Past Grand Masters Hugh McCurdy, A. T. Metcalf, and John W. Finch a committee to receive and introduce the distinguished visitors, and accompanied by the Grand Marshal they retired, and in due time introduced the following brethren from the Grand Lodge of Canada:

- M. W. Brother E. T. Malone, Grand Master.
- M. W. Brother W. R. White, Past Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother R. B. Hungerford, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother B. Allen as Grand Senior Warden.
- R. W. Brother J. E. D'Avignon as Grand Junior warden.
- R. W. Brother I. T. McKillop, Dist. Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. Bro. J. H. Henning, Past D. D. Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother A. H. Clark, Past D. D. Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother B. Paine, Past D. D. Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother E. S. Wigle, Past D. D. Grand Master.
- R. W. Brother J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary.
- R. W. Brother R. J. Munro, Grand Steward.
- R. W. Brother N. Shafley, Grand Steward.
- R. W. Brother D. L. Carley, Grand Steward.
- R. W. Brother E. Atchinson, Grand Steward.

These brethren were received with the Grand Honors in a manner befitting their high Masonic standing, and escorted to seats in the Grand East, Grand Master Lodge giving them a cordial welcome in a few well-chosen and happy remarks, which were most eloquently responded to by Grand Master Malone, whose masterly address was listened to with rapt attention, and elicited frequent rounds of hearty applause. He concluded by presenting to the Grand Lodge a beautiful gold-lined, silver loving cup from the visiting delegation. Grand Master Lodge received the beautiful gift on behalf of his Grand Lodge with fitting words expressive of high appreciation of the gift and the warm fraternal feelings which prompted its presentation.

Brothers White and Hungerford also spoke briefly, with fervor and eloquence on the reciprocal ties binding these two Grand Bodies, which were stronger than bands of steel.

These visiting brethren were the guests of our Grand Officers until the following morning, and everything was done to make their stay among us pleasant to them.

The address of the Grand Master is an exceedingly able and interesting document. We make the following extracts:

In commencing my account of my stewardship I desire to say that no attempt has been made to make this a record-

breaking year. When I surveyed the field at the commencement of my administration, in order to determine what new line of work to take up, I found that there were absolutely no more worlds to conquer. Every vein had been thoroughly worked. Having been one of Grand Master Phillips' active assistants, I knew that the future had been mortgaged to make this "the Corner Stone Year," and, for the next fifty years there would be no chance to rival his unprecedented career as the "Corner Stone Grand Master." There was nothing that I could add to the iconoclastic efforts of Grand Master Carton in the line of hitting the heads of Masonic insurance companies. I could not hope to travel as many miles, or hold as many Schools of Instruction as Grand Master Winsor, or write as many letters as Grand Master Dowling. Grand Master Bradley had untangled all the business snarls of Grand Lodge, and our financial affairs were running too smoothly for me to hope to improve them. "Our Hugh" had accomplished all the oratorical feats and plucked all the flowers of eloquence, and my other illustrious predecessors had stopped every gap and filled every chink in the walls of our Masonic edifice. So there was absolutely nothing for me to do save to steer our good ship in the safe course already set by those who had preceded me and follow in the luminous path which they had already blazed. This I have endeavored to do, and I believe the result has been most satisfactory.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

I bring to you the record of a peaceful, pleasant, prosperous year. Never, perhaps, have the Craft been more free from internal disasters, dissensions, or even disputes. Steadily quietly, peacefully, our beloved fraternity has pressed onward in her great and helpful mission, raising the fallen, helping the distressed, soothing the sorrowing, letting not the left hands know what the right hands have been doing, but none the less swiftly and surely running the errands of mercy and of work which have been set for her to do.

Such deeds cannot be easily counted. They cannot be readily marshaled into statistical columns nor glibly recited in reports like this. It must suffice to say that I have taken extra pains to become familiar with the condition of the Craft by lodges, and I can confidently assert that never were we more peaceful, prosperous and happy, never were we more zealous in all the beneficent activities of the Craft, never did brotherly love more universally prevail, and every social and moral virtue more firmly cement us.

A few figures showing the rapidity of our growth for the last fifty years may not be amiss on this, the beginning of the last year of the century:

In 1850 we had 40 Constituent Lodges and 1,314 members.

In 1860 we had 115 Constituent Lodges and 5,816 members.

In 1870 we had 257 Constituent Lodges and 20,346 members.

In 1880 we had 341 Constituent Lodges and 25,942 members.

In 1890 we had 363 Constituent Lodges and 31,353 members.

On the first day of January, 1900, we have 386 Constituent

Lodges and 41,917 members, and we rank fifth among the Grand Lodges of this continent. The increase for this year—1,530—is the largest for a quarter of a century and is only exceeded by one or two of the years of the war of the Rebellion, when so many soldiers were made Masons before going to the front.

To-day 159 lodges occupy lodge rooms which are owned by themselves, either alone or in connection with other Masonic bodies. Two hundred and twenty-three lodges occupy rented halls. One hundred and eighty-nine Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star occupy lodge rooms of the different lodges, while only six lodge rooms are reported to be occupied by the lodges jointly with outside organizations. Twenty-five of the lodges derive a revenue from renting portions of their buildings outside of their lodge rooms.

The value of all the lodge rooms has not been reported to me, but the total value of the 133 lodge rooms owned by the lodges and reported to me is \$824,650. The average value per building is \$6,200. The largest valuation is that placed upon the Masonic Temple in Detroit, which is given at \$355,000; the smallest valuation is \$300, upon which is a debt of \$175; and yet the same Masonry is taught and practiced in that humble lodge room as in this splendid Detroit Temple. One hundred and six of the lodges are free from debt on account of their lodge rooms. The total indebtedness upon the 53 buildings not wholly paid for is \$196,015, more than one-half of which—\$110,000—is upon the Detroit Temple. Omitting that, the average indebtedness upon the remaining 52 temples is \$1,654.

Truly, brethren, this is a proud showing! Truly the Lord has caused His face to shine upon us and been gracious to us!

We are at peace with ourselves and with our sister Grand Jurisdictions, and the utmost harmony at home and abroad has characterized this, the next to the last year of the nineteenth century.

The heart of every Mason should be raised in thanksgiving to the God of Masonry, for "surely, goodness and mercy have followed us all the days of our history."

The Grand Lodge of Porto Rico and the Grand Orient of Belgium were recognized. The application for recognition made by the Gran Dieta of Mexico was denied, Bro. Hugh McCurdy making an exhaustive report against its legitimacy and practices.

The petition of two members of the colored Grand Lodge of Michigan, praying for recognition was denied.

The report on Correspondence is to be omitted from future printed Proceedings, in order to save expense.

Their Masonic Home has 37 inmates. The net cost of maintenance has been reduced to \$2.72 per week per inmate.

Lucian E. Wood (Niles), G. M.

Jefferson S. Conover (Coldwater), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

47th Communication, St. Paul, January 17, 1900.

Alonzo T. Stebbins, G. M.

The Grand Master reports six new lodges. He has the following on their methods of instruction:

The work of the Board of Custodians has not been as extensive as heretofore, Brother Griswold being the only member of the board who has held schools of instruction. This is to be regretted. The system of instruction, although devised and put in operation but a few years ago, has done much, not only in promulgating the ritualistic work, but also in stimulating a desire on the part of the brethren to know more of the history, principles and laws of Masonry. Perhaps I have not given this matter as careful consideration as it deserves, leaving it to the individual members of the board to select places to hold their prescribed six schools of instruction where they deemed advisable. The Grand Master, through the reports received from the District Deputies is in possession of much information that would be of value to the board in selecting places to hold schools of instruction.

I reappointed Brother Griswold to succeed himself as a member of the board, his term having expired, and Bro. David B. Knowlton, of Minneapolis, to succeed Brother Raymond, deceased.

Brother Griswold held eight schools during the year, at a cost to the Grand Lodge of \$136.45. I would recommend that the sum of \$500 be again appropriated for this work for the coming year.

The following report was adopted:

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks, to whom was referred the request of Bro. H. M. Myers relative to the status of brethren receiving Masonic degrees in military lodges in the United States Army, respectfully report that, upon the production of the necessary Masonic data as to their standing, the brethren so initiated, passed or raised will be duly recognized by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota to all intents and purposes as if the degrees had been conferred in this Masonic jurisdiction.

In his review of Maine, Bro. Irving Todd has the following:

Of the grand encampment regulation requiring lodge and chapter affiliation to preserve one's standing in the commandery, Bro. Drummond says:

"The grand encampment, however, has entered upon the experiment, and we shall have the benefit of its experience, but we will venture to say that, if the law is enforced, the commandery will lose ten members where the lodge gains one. We think the regulation is based upon the dog in the manger principal (principle), which substantially makes the lodge say,

"If you won't belong to us you shall not belong to any other body."

As the lodge had nothing to say in the premises we fail to perceive the force of this reasoning, but are rather inclined to the opinion that the regulation is a wholesome one. Candidates are often rushed through the lodge and chapter like a dose of salts, and after donning the white feather they are seen no more in either body. Having attained the, to them, proud pinnacle they are perfectly willing to kick over the ladder by which the ascent was made. The grand encampment merely orders that they shall at least help keep the apparatus in repair.

Under "Washington," Bro. Todd copies the repealing resolutions on the Negro question and then says:

This labored manifesto is a practical illustration of how not to do it. While professing to repeal the obnoxious legislation of last year, the Grand Lodge or its committee or both assume to recognize any Masonry derived from or unquestioned by the Grand Lodge of England, a still more sweeping assertion than the one complained of. Such juggling with words is not creditable to the Grand Lodge of Washington or its committee. Had the sixth declaration ended with the phrase "said resolution is repealed," the tom tom allusions to self-invited attacks might possibly have been overlooked, and the peace and harmony so hypocritically invoked become at least a semblance of reality.

Your committee does not propose to enter into an extended review of a paper evidently carefully prepared to avoid the disagreeable effects of a square backdown or a yielding of the precious hope to become the Messiah of the so-called Colored Masons of this country. If the brethren in Washington derive any satisfaction from the anomalous position in which they have allowed themselves to be placed they are certainly welcome to it. The fraternity at large, however, is not satisfied, and will not be until the disavowal is couched in language that cannot be misunderstood or explained away.

Canada for 1899 has a good notice.

Lodges, 216; members, 16,401; increase, 482.

Alonzo Brandenburg (Fergus Falls), G. M.

Thomas Montgomery (St. Paul), G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

81st Communication, Vicksburg, February 8, 1899.

John M. Stone, G. M.

On the yellow fever epidemic the Grand Master says:

The appearance of yellow fever, in epidemic form, in several localities in the State, in the month of September, produced the usual panic, and business enterprises of every character

were practically paralyzed for two months. The usual exodus from the State almost immediately followed, many of the citizens taking refuge in the North and West, which probably added materially to the safety of those who elected, or were compelled, to remain at home. Fortunately the fever was of a mild type, and, with the exception of one or two localities, the death rate was exceedingly small. Yet the epidemic, with the consequent losses resulting from quarantine regulations, and the forced abandonment of homes and property for a time, entailed serious losses upon the people, from which some will never recover. But the hand of Charity, ever ready to minister to the suffering everywhere, was open to them, and many poor people were provided for who, without such aid, must have suffered.

The Grand Master decided that every corner-stone laid with Masonic ceremonies must be placed in the northeast corner of the building.

A majority of the lodges are in a most healthy condition, harmony prevails and the contributions to the widows and orphans have been ample.

The funds for a Home have not reached a sufficient amount to warrant proceeding with the work.

Bro. Andrew H. Barkley presented a capital report on Correspondence in which Canada for 1898 finds a place.

Lodges, 279; members, 9,158; increase, 119.

William Starling (Nanchez), G. M.

J. L. Power (Jackson), G. S.

MISSOURI.

79th Communication, Kansas City, Oct. 17, 1899.

E. F. Allen, G. M.

As a specimen of his eloquence we quote the following:

We live in the midst of the most brilliant civilization of the world. Our State, which is at the very heart's center of the garden-land of the universe (through the efforts of human genius and the blessings of God, regardless of destruction by the ruthless hand of ignorance and devastation by war), has been gradually changing from an Eden of beauty into a garden of industry, with even additional beauty and grandeur; our fields of harvest, our mines with their varied products, the wealth of our forests and streams, the exuberance of our climate, through the agencies of the mart, the factory, the railway, and the boat, serve industrious mankind with a bountiful supply of "the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy." 'Almost coeval with the first settlements on Missouri soil were the lights placed upon the al-

tars of Masonry, and from then until now it has carried its humanizing influences, its charities, its social pleasures, its craft ambitions, in the advance guard of our civilization. The perfume from the altars of Masonry has permeated the lives of many thousands of our citizens. It has entered the home and gladdened the hearts of those about the fireside; it has been continually upon the highway, in the office and place of business or occupation, in the factory, upon the farm, at the mine, in the courts of justice and halls of legislation; Freemasonry has established more lasting friendships than any known institution of the world.

The Grand Lodge decided that in the present disturbed condition of Masonry in Mexico it is not expedient to recognize the Gran Dieta.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1898. His conclusion is excellent:

From all the information gathered, while reviewing the Proceedings in hand, it may be safely stated that Masonry in this country never was more solidly based upon its ancient foundations. Progress and prosperity have marked its march for the year. "The little cloud" which arose on the western horizon has disappeared. The folly of its origin need not be enlarged upon. The author of said folly may have learned, if not incapacitated by blindness, that it is "hard to kick against the pricks," or sharp and fixed principles of a conservative Brotherhood. Reformers are not in demand among the class of men who compose the Masonic Fraternity.

The work of establishing and maintaining Masonic Homes goes on with most encouraging progress. Masonry is thus demonstrating its true mission and right to a place among the great and good institutions of our advancing civilization. Never in its history has the fraternity presented such credentials to the confidence and approbation of the general public. The hearts of many thousands have been touched by the princely deeds of our Masonic sanctuaries in many of the Grand Lodges of the country. These are truly Asylums of Love. A Divine Angel, Charity, presides in these creations of Masonic hearts. Our Missouri Home has never been so well grounded in the affections and faith of the craft. As a representative of this blessed sanctuary, I send greetings to all sister jurisdictions where similar institutions exist. God speed the day when the lonely widows and helpless children of our fallen brethren may all find rest, peace and comfort in these abodes of practical Masonic benevolence.

Lodges, 556; members, 32,153; increase, 598.

C. H. Briggs (Fayette), G. M.

John D. Vincil (St. Louis), G. S.

MONTANA.

35th Communication, Helena, Sept. 20, 1899.

Charles W. Pomeroy, G. M.

A revised Constitution was adopted.

On the recommendation of the Grand Master, the mileage paid to representatives was reduced from five cents to four cents, and the amount thus saved is to be used to defray the expenses of the Grand Master in making official visitations.

The Grand Secretary presented another of his first-class reports on Correspondence. In his review of Arizona we find the following:

Whether Masonry originated with Solomon at the building of the great Temple, and even whether Solomon deserves the credit of being the wisest man, are doubtful matters to our mind. Solomon's domestic matters have never impressed us as exhibiting any more marvelous wisdom than those of Mohammed, with odds in favor of the latter. If that great Temple, aside from the true worship of the only living and true God, so long as it was practiced therein, had any special value in the sight of Jehovah, it would never have been destroyed. If, as Brother Belden supposes, the Temple-builders were the first instance where the dignity of labor was recognized and regarded as a stimulus to exertion and skill, it becomes a notable era in the world's history, and is of more practical value than a thousand temples. The human soul is God's temple, and He prefers to dwell in and with an honest, contrite, devout and obedient heart, rather than in the most costly and gorgeous temple. Dignified, independent, intelligent labor is the hope of the world. Masons are builders, working under the eye of God, with His inspiration in their hearts and His sure rewards in view. Many of the so-called labor unions are blighting and degrading to labor, reducing all to a common low level, stifling ambition, frequently exercising a tyranny as cruel as the hardest taskmaster. The solution is not yet reached.

On the folly of going into debt in order to build a Temple, Bro. Hedges, in his notice of Arkansas, says:

It takes a pretty good temple to pay expenses when there is no debt on it. When Solomon erected his great temple he was several years in gathering materials and filling his treasury before work was begun, in addition to all the preparation that his father David had made. His successors have not been as prudent, though it is generally thought, and by many believed, that the world is all the time growing wiser and better. It is not supposed that Solomon had to pay taxes and insurance on his temple, and elevators had not been introduced. Aside from local ambitions and some general pride

and pleasure, we doubt if Masonic Temples ever pay. The cost of maintenance alone would pay the rent of sumptuous and commodious offices for the Grand Officers and the place for annual meetings. We are clearly of the opinion that Masonic Homes reflect more credit on Masonry and yield fruits more abundant and infinitely more valuable, and those who flatter themselves that the revenues of the Temple will sometime become a rich endowment to support a Home are counting on a great uncertainty, and at any rate are postponing the greater for a very much smaller profit. But the Grand Lodge voted another sacrifice for the altar of indebtedness. It abolished correspondence reports to save \$200 a year in printing. To the general craft these reports, such as Brother Davidson has supplied this year, furnish more information and satisfaction than the same amount of cost invested in any other way, and we are surprised that Past Grand Master Thornburg could have proposed the sacrifice, or that any intelligent brother would have approved of it. It emphasizes the exceeding folly of getting into debt, involving the necessity of sacrificing the "crown jewels" to escape the rapacity of creditors. Perhaps the Grand Lodge of Arkansas may survive its experience with temple building, as well as the boy who was kicked by a mule, whose father said he would never be as handsome as before, but he might know more.

In his review of Canada for 1898, he says that Bro. Gibson's address was unsurpassed in quality, and that our Benevolent work is "a distinction to be proud of and more creditable than the finest Temple ever erected."

Lodges, 46; members, 3,000; increase, 150.

Anthony H. Barret (Butte), G. M.

Cornelius Hedges (Helena), G. S.

NEBRASKA.

42nd Communication, Lincoln, June 7, 1899.

Frank H. Young, G. M.

Among the deaths of the year are recorded those of their first Grand Master, Robert C. Jordan, and their Grand Secretary, William R. Bowen. Bro. Jordan was the prime mover in the organization of the Grand Lodge in 1857, and his whole life was substantially devoted to the upbuilding of Freemasonry. Bro. Bowen was Grand Secretary for 27 years, and in him the Craft has lost a most devoted member.

The Grand Custodian held 42 lodges of instruction and visited six lodges singly. The lodges are generally prosperous.

The youngest son of their late lamented Grand Secretary was adopted as the child of the Grand Lodge, and his future practical education and welfare is assured.

By the adoption of a majority report, the Grand Lodge decided that they had gone far enough on the liquor question and that it was not a Masonic crime for a member to sign a saloon petition.

Bro. Charles J. Phelps reports on Correspondence in the topical form. His remarks on the necessity of reading Masons are good.

Authentic records of lodge proceedings were not preserved down to within something like three hundred years ago, and then only in exceptional cases. But since 1717, when the present system of Grand Lodge government of the craft was adopted, lodge records have become necessary. The compilation of the old constitutions, by Anderson, and their publications, seems to have inaugurated the latter-day literature of the Order. And still there existed a dearth of really valuable publications, when, early in the present century, Dr. Oliver began his work, and during his lifetime contributed publications of rare value to the craft. His great work, "The Historical Landmarks of Freemasonry," is a veritable storehouse of valuable knowledge, and should be carefully read by every one desirous of gaining a clear conception of the philosophical character of the legends and traditions involved in the ritual of Freemasonry, as well as of many subjects connected with the authentic history and government of Masonic bodies. Mackey and Morris, among American writers, should be familiar authorities with every aspiring brother.

The reviewers upon all current topics discussed in Masonic Grand Bodies afford a means to enable those actively engaged in lodge government to act understandingly. Without more or less study of our literature one is unfit to hold the responsible position of Master of a lodge.

It has been observed by those intelligently engaged in carrying on the work that our members do not, as a general thing, read our literature. And many in our ranks elevated to positions of high authority in our lodges, Grand and subordinate, are, unfortunately, deplorably ignorant of anything like a thorough knowledge of what they are expected to teach. Valuable as the ritual is as a key to all the more beautiful lessons of the degrees, nevertheless a thorough knowledge of it is but the beginning of what a Freemason should learn and master.

It too often occurs that one who has mastered a knowledge of the "work" and made himself familiar with some of the simpler rules for the government of the lodge, and who has only a superficial knowledge of the art, really thinks he knows all about it. Members of our Order, and our enemies, alike accept as true many mistaken views as to what Freemasonry is and what it teaches. It is a science, as we are told, "velled

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Its better part is formed in the pure principles it teaches by its legends, traditions and symbols. How, then, without diligent study, are we to see and know all the beauties of our cult?

The matter of the government of ourselves and our organizations is, though of less importance, of great moment. In this latter branch necessity compels some attention that things may go on somewhat smoothly; but far less attention is paid to this than should be given to it. Our rulers are too prone to jump at conclusions, not recognizing the fact that Masonry is a law unto itself, but lazily turning to some analogy in the civil law rather than diligently searching for the true rule. The writer would urge the Freemasons of Nebraska, for whom this review is written principally, to a study of the text-books and histories, and a perusal of all the reviews obtainable. Without such reading, study, and perusal, certainly those chosen to positions of trust among us can but fail in instructing the newly initiated.

Lodges, 230; members, 11,948; increase, 173.

William W. Keysor (Omaha), G. M.

Francis E. White (Plattsmouth), G. S.

NEVADA.

35th Communication, Virginia City, June 13, 1899.

Matthew Kyle, G. M.

His address opens with the following:

A review of the returns from the various Constituent Lodges shows a slight decrease in numbers, but Masonry is not measured by numbers. It is the innate strength of the individual Mason, his work in the community, and his standing as a man, that measures the worth of our glorious fraternity. My observation of the ever constant influence of Masonry has convinced me that when a man becomes a Mason he becomes a better man, and if I have any injunction to give the brethren it is to exhort them to conform with earnestness to the teachings of Masonry. A faithful reliance upon its precepts will aid us in every battle and encourage us in our struggle for higher ideals.

That the officers and members of all the lodges of our jurisdiction are endowed with the true spirit of Masonic fellowship, I am more than convinced by my travels among them.

The mission of the Mason is to help his brother in all laudable undertakings, and not to let private pique interfere with his judgment; and such, I am happy to say, has been the distinguishing trait of a vast majority of our members.

Fraternal relations were resumed with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

The suggestion of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming as

to the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge was not approved.

Bro. A. D. Bird has a concise report on Correspondence, including a review of Canada for 1898.

John M. McCormack (Reno), G. M.

Chauncey N. Noteware (Carson City), G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

32nd Communication, St. John, August 22, 1899.

Thomas Walker, G. M.

Harmony prevails and much good work has been quietly done. The reports of the District Deputies, with one exception, are hopeful of the future.

It was decided that the distance between lodges should be measured in a direct or air-line from lodge-room to lodge-room, without reference to territorial boundaries.

The following was adopted:

That section 9 of the report of the board be adopted and that a committee of three be appointed to meet with the committees of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and discuss with them the proposed union of the three Grand Lodges, but that the appointment of such committee shall not be held as committing this Grand Lodge in any way to the principle of such union.

Lodges, 32; members, 1778; increase, 11.

J. G. Forbes (St. John), G. M.

J. Twining Hartt (St. John), G. S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

110th Communication, Concord, May 17, 1899.

John McLane, G. M.

The members of the lodge at Wilton are the lucky possessors of a beautiful Masonic Temple, the generous gift of a Past Master of the lodge, the Hon. David A. Gregg. "No single lodge in the State has a Temple that will equal this one for elegance and beauty of design or rich and costly workmanship."

Any brother who shall have served as an officer or on any standing committee of this Grand Lodge for ten years consecutively may be elected to permanent membership.

Bro. A. S. Wait presented a very readable report on

Correspondence, in which Canada for 1898 has a favorable notice.

Lodges, 78; members, 9,240; increase, 16.

John McLane (Milford), G. M.

George P. Cleaves (Concord), G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

113th Communication, Trenton, January 24, 1900.

Josiah W. Ewan, G. M.

The Grand Master is of opinion that it is unwise to remove their interdict against the Grand Lodge of Washington until it is positively determined by that Grand Lodge whether New Jersey has any right to review or question the admission to the lodges in Washington of persons whom New Jersey has declared to be clandestine and irregular.

The usual District Lodges of Instruction were held with a better attendance than formerly, but the Grand Master thinks that they can be discontinued in the future as the brethren are now so well informed that they are unnecessary, and the District Deputies are fully competent to attend to the future instruction.

We copy two of his decisions:

Candidates shall not be initiated in English-speaking lodges unless they understand the English language.

No brother who has dimitted from a lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Washington since the issuance of the interdict of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey against that Grand Lodge, can affiliate with a New Jersey lodge until the interdict is removed.

With a few exceptions the Craft in New Jersey is in a most flourishing condition.

There are 22 inmates in their Masonic Home, maintained at a cost of \$288.66 per capita per annum.

On the "Washington" edict, the following report was adopted:

This Grand Lodge does and always has recognised the eligibility of any man to be made a Mason who possesses the proper qualifications, without regard to his race or color.

It also recognizes the right of the Grand Lodge of Washington and of its subordinate lodges to receive into their fellowship by affiliation or to admit as visitors such persons as they see fit. We can only insist that so long as that Grand Lodge recognizes the right of its subordinate lodges to hold Masonic intercourse with alleged Masons who do not owe allegiance to any body recognized by us as Masonic, the Grand

Lodge of New Jersey must, under our obligations, refuse to recognize it as a Masonic body or to hold any communication with it as such. We must therefore recommend that the interdiction issued against the Grand Lodge of Washington and those owing allegiance thereto should not be removed.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. Charles Belcher, P. G. M., and is an excellent and very readable review of 54 jurisdictions, including Canada for 1899.

Lodges, 169; members, 17, 386; increase, 415.

Joseph E. Moore (Jersey City), G. M.

T. H. R. Redway (Trenton), G. S.

NEW MEXICO.

22nd Communication, Albuquerque, Oct. 2, 1899.

The Grand Master, Robert C. Stewart, was unavoidably absent. In his address we find the following interesting decisions:

No. 2. Would you kindly inform me as to how far or how much knowledge is necessary for a proficiency lecture—whether a person having the sense and idea of the lecture and the obligation was enough, or whether he should have word for word?

Answer. "Perfection in the lectures" I take the ability to prove oneself a Mason beyond doubt, whether letter and word perfect or not, this perfection of course is desirable for the benefit of the brother and the lodge, but I do not deem it absolutely necessary. If a brother having, as you say, "the sense and idea of the lecture and the obligation," and had besides a deep impression of the seriousness and imperative demands of his Masonic duties and obligations, I certainly would hold him proficient.

No. 3. Lodge prepared and admitted a candidate in due form, but after the first prayer he failed to answer the questions asked him to the satisfaction of the Master, who thereupon directed the Senior Deacon to "do his duty."

Question. Should the lodge return the candidate the initiation fee, he not having received the degree for which he paid?

Answer. If the question asked the candidate is the one I think it is, there can be but one answer satisfactory to Masons. If the candidate could not or would not answer as is required, the Worshipful Master did right—the fee should be returned, and the candidate stand as a profane, as an essential, which is much more necessary than physical perfection seems to be lacking.

A Worshipful Master asked the following question: "The Eastern Star" here had advertised an entertainment for last Saturday night, and I was informed were selling tickets to Masons, also to outsiders, the entertainment to be held in our lodge room, and consisting of dialogues, singing, recitations,

etc. I learned of this only the day prior to the date set, and after consulting several of our members here, I concluded they could not hold the entertainment unless I had your consent. I wrote you that night setting forth the facts, and asking you to wire me your decision, you being out of town, I got no reply, and acting on the advice and judgment of several of our best informed members, I refused to let the affair take place as proposed.

"Kindly let me know if I acted right in the premises."

To this I replied:

"I congratulate you upon your action in the premises, for while you permit the 'Order of the Eastern Star' to hold meetings, and do its work in your lodge room, you can not permit any one to use a dedicated and consecrated lodge room for purposes outside of its legitimate uses, nor can the Grand Master grant this by dispensation."

Brethren, Masonic halls are sacred places where we practice and teach the sublime science of Masonry, they should be jealously guarded and, while the entertainment alluded to would have proved innocent enough, yet it would have been only the entering in of those things that might cause some to regard all too lightly the place that is holy ground.

The Chapter of the Eastern Star mentioned, addressed a communication to me, requesting me to appoint a day on which to meet a representative which they would send to consult with me as to whether it was Masonic or un-Masonic for them to have given the entertainment in the lodge room.

To which I replied:

"It will not be necessary for your chapter to send a representative to consult with me upon the matter in question, for all the acts of your chapter must be held by me as "un-Masonic," as the chapter does not owe its existence to and is not recognized as a Masonic body by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico."

The lodges are generally prosperous and at peace and there is a strong prevailing desire to become thoroughly posted in the work.

The following report on the Gran Dieta of Mexico was adopted:

Your Committee to whom has been referred certain documents from the Gran Dieta of the Republica de Mejico beg leave to report:

Some years ago that Grand Body asked for recognition from this Grand Lodge, but no action was taken. The documents just received seem to assume that we granted recognition: they show that the Gran Dieta is much harassed by rival Grand Lodges seeking to exercise authority over the same territory. The documents clearly show that we should be cautious in giving recognition to any Grand Body in Mexico. Our close proximity to Mexico renders us liable to frequent embarrassment should we make a mistake in any action we may take. The undersigned will be in Mexico quite frequently during the coming year and will make a personal in-

vestigation if permitted by this Grand Lodge and make a full report in time for our next Annual Communication.

We therefore recommend that action be deferred until next year and that until action is taken we instruct our members to be careful in their relations with Mexican Masonry, and that the regular report of this committee be printed in the annual proceedings.

The minimum fee for the degrees in this jurisdiction is \$50.

Perpetual jurisdiction is not favored. One year's residence is all that is required.

Lodges, 20; members, 922; increase, 41.

Elias E. Day (Las Cruces), G. M.

Alpheus E. Keen (Albuquerque), G. S.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proceedings from June, 1898, to June, 1899.

Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., Grand Master.

In the report of the Grand Inspector of Workings for September we find the following:

Generally speaking I have found the work accurately performed, but I regret that in most lodges there is an absence of that impressive solemnity which I trust will, in future, be cultivated in the ceremonial portion of the work. In some matters of detail, such as saluting, the use and abandonment of the S., the use of the G. by the Wardens, the method of leaving and returning to the chairs, the advancement of C. to E. (especially in the E. A. degree) there is much carelessness and apparent indifference.

Upon other points there appears to be a lack of knowledge, and, at the same time, a desire for authorized instruction. As the Lodge of Instruction is not working under G. L. supervision, it does not supply the want. I suggest for the consideration of the Board, that the Lodge of Instruction should be placed under the authority and direct supervision of G. L., or that a Lodge of Exemplification should be formed and warranted by G. L., the officers to be appointed either by the Grand Master or selected by your board. The principal object to be served by such authorized lodge would be the exemplification of the proper methods of working in the different degrees.

In March a revised Constitution was adopted.

A History of Masonry in New South Wales is to be compiled by R. W. Bro. J. B. Trivett, at the expense of the Grand Lodge.

A resolution was adopted to the effect that the practice of attending Church services in regalia meets with

the disapproval of the Grand Lodge and should be discontinued.

In June, 1899, a communication was received from brethren who had formed what they designated "The Grand Lodge of Western Australia." The Board of General Purposes postponed the consideration of the letter sine die.

The applications for relief were 201, and the number assisted 176, to the amount of over \$5,000.

The new Grand Master, Bro. John C. Remington, delivered a very able and interesting address, which gives the condition of affairs in our sister Colony in clear terms, so that we are able to understand their position much better than before. We make the following extracts:

We stand to-night at the parting of the ways. The line of what may be styled Hereditary Grand Masters has ended, and you have for the first time chosen as chief ruler one of yourselves; a partner in the struggles for independence and unity which ended by the formation of our Grand Lodge in 1888; one who had a large share of the work of framing its articles of Union, and who has ever since been a loyal and faithful adherent to the Constitution thus framed.

Having conferred on such an one the highest honor within your gift, you are naturally entitled to look for an adequate return of diligent and continuous work from him in the direction of maintaining and strengthening the solidarity of Freemasonry in this territory. Something more than mere ceremonial attendance at Masonic functions is expected from any Grand Master—in these colonies, at all events—who appreciates aright the responsibilities of his high office. It was for this reason that I was not personally anxious to reach this Chair, and that I hailed my predecessor's wish, twelve months ago, to hold the position for another year almost as a reprieve. I was by no means sure that I could spare the time that the duties demand, leading as I do a busy everyday life; or that I might be deemed a worthy successor of those distinguished brethren who have preceded me as Grand Masters in New South Wales. The spontaneous and general promise of co-operation at once forthcoming reassured by mind on the one point, but as to the other I still have my doubts, which can only be solved one way or other by the practical experience of my term of office.

Our Grand Lodge has in the past been fortunate indeed in its choice of Chief Rulers. First came that illustrious brother, Lord Carrington, who, almost from the day of his arrival in Sydney, continually pointed out the road by which the then divergent sections of Freemasons, owing allegiance to different Grand Lodges, might arrive at the union which found its consummation in that glorious meeting on the 16th of

August, 1888, in the Great Hall of our University. Who could possibly have been a better choice as our Grand Master? Let me say in passing that he still keeps a warm interest in the Craft, and that in 1892 I had the honor and pleasure of assisting him in his capacity as Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, and of hearing him speak in glowing terms of his experiences amongst us. His term of office, as Her Majesty's representative, coming to an end in October, 1890, of course left the chair of Grand Master vacant, but there was, fortunately, no doubt as to its next occupant.

In Lord Jersey, who succeeded him as Governor, we found a Freemason not only zealous and ready to accept office, but "well skilled in our Ancient Charges and Regulations, a lover of the craft, able and willing to take the management of the work." It was my privilege to serve under him for a time as Deputy Grand Master, and there must be many here who, like myself, remember his able conduct in the chair, and the almost surprising facility with which he grasped every point submitted to him. Since he left the colony, we have on at least one occasion had the advantage of his voice on our behalf in Councils elsewhere, and his speech showed that his interest was no perfunctory one, but grounded upon intimate knowledge of facts and a glowing zeal for the rights of our Grand Lodge as the supreme Masonic authority in this territory.

The tradition thus established, as to the Governor of the colony, if a Freemason, being offered the Grand Master's chair, was followed by the election of the late Sir Robert Duff in June, 1893. I heard from his own lips, a few evenings before his installation, that he had accepted office from a sense of its being almost a duty to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, and that otherwise he would have gladly been relieved of the position. Nevertheless, we remember him as reflecting no discredit on our choice, but fulfilling with dignity and honor all the duties for which the claims of the State left him time and opportunity.

Each of these three heads of the Craft had special assistance from the brother who filled the office of Pro-Grand Master, which our late revisal of the Book of Constitutions has abolished, the circumstances which called for its creation appearing to no longer exist. It undoubtedly made it easier for anyone to accept the higher titular office, conscious that most of the work would be done by another; and its abolition, I take it, points to the fact that henceforth the Grand Master will be expected to take his full share of duty.

The last Pro-Grand Master, as you all know, was my illustrious and immediate predecessor, Sir Joseph Abbott, who acted in that capacity for the late Sir Robert Duff from June, 1894, and at his death in March, 1895, naturally succeeded to the higher office of Grand Master, to which he was re-elected in 1896, 1897, and 1898. His position as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, which made him, being also a Freemason of long standing, pre-eminently qualified for the Grand Master's Chair, unfortunately made such demands on his time that,

being also handicapped by ill-health, he was all too seldom able to preside over our deliberations, and his presence here to-night I regard as an especial honor. Nevertheless he has left on record distinct rulings on important points, and his successors in all time to come will gratefully acknowledge the emphatic way in which he asserted the rights and powers of the Grand Master.

The immediate successor of such men as these may well distrust his own abilities; and yet if assured, as I have been, of the loyalty of the lodges far and near, and the hearty acquiescence of the brethren in the choice which their representatives in Grand Lodge have made, he may take his high place with confidence in the cordial and kindly support of officers and members. It is, however, no light responsibility which now rests upon my shoulders.

The union of the craft, which some critics prophesied would fall asunder from internal jealousies, has defied all assaults from without and felt none from within. The example set in New South Wales, preceded only by South Australia, has been followed in Victoria, Tasmania, and New Zealand, each of which has its own Grand Lodge, independent of, and yet in friendly communication with, the other Grand Lodges of the world.

It must be my task to see that the high reputation of our own Grand Lodge be maintained, but I start under happy auspices. You have given me a team of zealous and intelligent officers, the calibre of whom may perhaps be gauged by the fact that one of them who might have aspired to any rank in Grand Lodge has accepted the comparatively subordinate and yet exceedingly important and onerous position of President of the Board of General Purposes, in order that, as he was good enough to say, he might have the pleasure of strengthening my hands. The feeling of personal good-will to myself, which I so highly value, is, I am assured, shared by all the other Grand Lodge officers, upon whose faithful discharge of their respective duties so much of the success of any Grand Master's term of office depends.

Moreover we commence this year under a revised Book of Constitutions, the result of long and careful study on the part of the committee charged with its preparation, and of subsequent thorough discussion in Grand Lodge. Its main features, so far as they are emphasized by the revision, are: Increased precautions against the admission to our Order of any except fully qualified candidates; and facilities for the better representation of country lodges in the making and administration of our laws.

Furthermore, our various funds are in a state of prosperity. There was a time, after the crisis in 1893, when Freemasonry, like other institutions of our colony, suffered from the effects of the financial panic. Our income fell suddenly; our outlay increased; there were several special and unprecedented expenses thrust upon us; and the lay-by, if any, was small. I hope we have arrived at the end of that state of things.

Our Benevolent Fund amounts to £6,200, and disburses every

year between £1,100 and £1,200 in relief of deserving applicants. None such is ever refused, although Masonry is not a benefit society, and much of our charity is bestowed upon brethren who never contributed one penny to the funds of our Grand Lodge. That they are Masons, and in distress, is the only qualification which guards our system of relief, the total of which during the past eleven years has amounted to over £12,200.

The Grand Lodge fund, from which are defrayed our ordinary working expenses—no light matter when the affairs of 185 lodges through New South Wales are under control, and which has also been available for the relief of distress caused by great catastrophes of flood, fire or shipwreck, now amounts to over £3,200.

Our oldest collateral charity, the Freemasons' Orphan Society, supports 17 children of deceased Masons, and has funds amounting to over £22,000. Our youngest, the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, has now on its books 28 annuitants, aged and distressed Masons, their wives or widows, and holds invested over £5,000, added to every year by the voluntary subscriptions of the fraternity, and, I am bound to say, the generous support of the public to our Annual Festival, which next Thursday will, I hope, yield a return at least equal to that of former years.

We have, as the result of the forethought and liberality of our brethren in bygone days, the Masonic Scholarship at the University, which lately held for three years with so much distinction by the eldest son of our last Deputy Grand Master, is now again open for competition by the sons of Masons in this territory.

The same liberal spirit founded the Cottage Hospital at Camden, an adjunct to the greater Convalescent Home, which was itself the munificent gift of our deceased brother William Henry Paling—a man who carried through all his life the brightest practical adherence to the tenets and principles of our Order, foremost amongst which are Benevolence and Charity. Our little building, opened in 1890, has sheltered 51 patients.

Bro. John B. Trivett, who was honored with appointment of Deputy Grand Master, presented a valuable report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1898 finds a place.

Lodges, 187; members, 7,164; increase, 317.

John C. Remington (Sydney), G. M.

Arthur H. Bray (Sydney), G. S.

NEW YORK.

118 Communication, New York, June 6th, 1899.

William A. Sutherland, G. M.

Among the distinguished visitors present were M. W.

Bros. E. T. Malone, A. A. Stevenson and William Gibson, and V. W. Bro. John A. Cowan.

The address of the Grand Master opens as follows:

In obedience to the Constitution the officers of the Grand Lodge present accounts of their stewardship. These reports show disbursements by the Grand Treasurer amounting to \$77,648.48, leaving a balance in his hands on this date of \$48,298.90. The Trustees of the Hall and Asylum report disbursements in support of the 250 inmates of the Home, and permanent improvements, \$61,557.46, and general expenses amounting to \$3,045.72, with a balance of cash on hand amounting to \$7,919.84, with a reserve fund amounting to \$198,605.33, nearly all invested in bond and mortgages. The Trustees of the Permanent Fund show a balance of \$77,586.19. The aggregate of the funds and investments in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund, and the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, amounts to \$332,410.31.

In the building and equipment of our Home at Utica we have already expended upwards of \$375,000, and the Temple in which we are now assembled, though not adequate nor wholly suitable to the uses of the craft, was, when built, ample and convenient for the requirements of that day. This building, including the site, reasonably valued at \$1,500,000, brings our entire possessions up to a total of over \$2,200,000.

New lodges were opened at North Tonawanda, Pawling and Plattsburgh.

The resuscitation of the Grand Lodges of Cuba and Puerto Rico was announced by the Grand Master with the liveliest satisfaction. Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Orient of Belgium.

The Grand Master's account of his visit to Zetland Lodge in Toronto is pleasant reading.

The communication of Zetland Lodge in Toronto, which it was my rare privilege to attend, was decidedly unique and most interesting on account of the presence and participation in the work of Most Worshipful E. T. Malone, the Grand Master, and nine of the ten living Past Grand Masters of Masons in Canada. Some three hundred Free Masons were assembled in the lodge room, the walls of which are adorned with oil paintings, life-size, of every Past Grand Master of Canada. Your Grand Master and Senior Grand Deacon were accorded a most royal reception. The designs on the trestle board called for the conferring of the first degree, and though the hands which held the tools were not as deft and supple as those of younger workmen, the spirit nevertheless was there, and each Past Grand Master ceased his allotted share in the work with the well-merited plaudits of the assembled Craftsmen. Our

march to the banquet hall was enlivened by the strains of The Star Spangled Banner, and the hall itself was decorated with the Stars and Stripes as well as the Union Jack, and supported the portraits not only of Victoria the Queen and the Prince of Wales, but also of our own immortal Washington. During the banquet our ears were saluted by the familiar strains of Yankee Doodle, and later all persons joined in singing the words as the orchestra sounded the strains, My Country, 'Tis of Thee. It goes without saying that the remarks of all the speakers at this Canadian banquet table abounded with expressions of friendship not only for the Grand Lodge of New York, but for the citizens of this our beloved land. Most emphatically were the two from New York reminded that no matter under which flag we chance to dwell, those from either side who stand the test of the Masonic square find themselves within the circumference described by the Masonic compass. As we have the rare privilege of receiving today, as our guests, the Grand Master of Masons in Canada, and many of his Past Grand Masters, I need hardly bespeak for them your most cordial, most emphatic and very warmest welcome.

The committee on work and lectures give high praise to the Grand Lecturer, Bro. William H. Whiting, for his faithful services. They also say:

Your Committee believe that the monitorial work should not fall of the attention of the Grand Lodge when occasion seems to require it, and we therefore recommend two additions to our monitorial work. The first has reference to the Preparation Room. The second has reference to the Holy Bible.

The Grand Master, in his encyclical letter to his Deputies—so full of instruction, admonition and wise direction—laid particular stress upon the duties of Masters of Ceremonies in these words:

"With greatest earnestness I urge you to inquire diligently as to the conduct of Masters of Ceremonies. As the Master of the lodge cannot easily leave his station in the East, so he cannot, while the lodge is open and at work, know of all the doings of his Masters of Ceremonies, but in private conversation he should thoroughly inform himself of their practices, and give them instruction, if any be needed. No duty more delicate devolves upon the officer of any lodge than that performed by the Masters of Ceremonies, and no reprimand is too severe to be administered to any one who, in such position, violates any of the proprieties of life or departs in the slightest measure from the conduct befitting a gentleman and a Mason. Indeed, that which should be regarded as intolerable amongst gentlemen should be absolutely impossible amongst Freemasons. Whether this subject can best be attended to in public speech before the lodge or in private conversation with the Master must be left to the sound judgment of the Deputy in each case."

No true Mason can fail to endorse the sentiments of the Grand Master as just read, therefore we think the candidate

in the Preparation Room should receive some properly worded and dignified intimation of the moral character of the ceremonies of initiation in place of the impromptu information given by the Master of Ceremonies, which sometimes presents a strong contrast to the beautiful English of the Ritual which the candidate hears in the lodge room. Above and beyond all, the Masters of Ceremonies should be restrained from jesting with the candidate. It would seem to us appropriate, and we recommend that the Secretary of the Lodge or some other officer or member be directed to repair to the Preparation Room and address the candidate, before the constitutional questions are propounded, as follows:

"Mr. Blank—Somewhat of your motives, in applying for admission into our ancient and honorable fraternity, we have learned from the declaration, over your signature, contained in your petition; but, in order that you may not be misled as to the character or the purpose of the ceremonies in which you are about to engage, the lodge addresses to you these preliminary words of advice: Freemasonry is far removed from all that is trivial, selfish and ungodly. Her structure is built upon the everlasting foundation of that God-given law—the brotherhood of man in the family whose Father is God. Our ancient and honorable fraternity welcomes to her doors and admits to her privileges worthy men of all creeds and of every race, but she insists that all men shall stand upon an exact equality and receive her instructions in a spirit of due humility, emphasizing, in demeanor, in conduct, in ceremony, and in language, the helpless, groping nature of man at his birth and his need of reliance upon divine guidance through all the transactions of life. You will here be taught to divest your mind and conscience of all the vices and superfluities of life, and the lodge into which you are now to be admitted expects you to divest yourself of all those worldly distinctions and equipments which are not in keeping with the humble, reverent and childlike attitude it is now your duty to assume, as all have done who have gone this way before you."

Again, in view of the action of the late Grand Master of Masons in Peru (since happily repealed), and the long to be remembered edict of our Grand Master in relation thereto, and prompted in part by the splendid action of the Grand Lodge of England, with reference to the restoration of the Bible upon the altars of the Lodges in Peru, the committee recommend a few words of instruction to the newly obligated Master Mason as he stands at the altar, entitled to all the light which can be conferred upon or communicated to him in a Master Mason's lodge. At that important and never to be forgotten moment in his Masonic career, let the Worshipful Master of the lodge address him in the following words:

"I particularly direct your attention to the Great Light in Masonry—the Holy Bible. Howsoever men differ in creed or theology, all good men are agreed that within the covers of the Holy Bible are found those principles of morality which lay the foundations upon which to build a righteous life. Freemasonry therefore opens this Book upon its altars, with

the command to each of its votaries that he diligently study therein to learn the way to everlasting life. Adopting no particular creed, forbidding sectarian discussion within her lodge rooms, encouraging each to be steadfast in the faith of his acceptance, Freemasonry takes all good men by the hand, and, leading them to her altars, points to the open Bible thereon, and urges upon each that he faithfully direct his steps through life by the Light he there shall find and as he there shall find it. If from our sacred altars the atheist, the infidel, the irreligious man, or the libertine should ever be able to wrest this Book of Sacred Laws, and thus remove, or even obscure, the greatest Light in Masonry—that light which has for centuries been the rule and guide of Freemasons—we then could no longer claim for ourselves the great rank and title of Free and Accepted Masons; but, so long as that sacred light shines upon our altars, so long as it illuminates the pathway of the craftsmen by the golden rays of truth, so long, and no longer, can Freemasonry live and shed its beneficent influence upon mankind. Guard, then, that Book of sacred and immutable law as you would guard your very life. Defend it as you would the flag of your country. Live according to its divine teachings, with their everlasting assurance of a blessed immortality.

Bro. Jesse B. Anthony presented his eleventh report on Correspondence. It is an elaborate review of all the Grand Lodges everywhere, covering 215 pages and full of interesting matters. In addition to all his other duties, Bro. Anthony is the Superintendent of their magnificent Masonic Home at Utica, which has 244 inmates, who are well cared for at an annual expense of about \$45,000. Of his services in this regard the Grand Master says:

Fortunate indeed are we to-day in that men of the highest character and ability have been willing to associate themselves more or less intimately with the management of our Home. In the Superintendent, Most Worshipful Jesse B. Anthony, and his accomplished and estimable wife, we are fortunate beyond fondest expectations. Having kept in close touch with the Home and its management since the day it was opened, and particularly while as Grand Master having made myself intimately acquainted with its management, I do no less than discharge an obvious duty in paying to him a tribute so gloriously earned by the Most Worshipful Brother who stands at the head of this institution and conducts its affairs. Having acquired considerable knowledge of the difficulties he has had to contend with from various sources, it is but scant acknowledgment of the tact, the good judgment, the patience, and the unflagging devotion he and his wife have both displayed to say that their places we can hardly hope ever to fill. They two have been most emphatically one in striving to place the Masonic Home of this jurisdiction on so high a plane as to make it the model for all others upon the American con-

minent. Notwithstanding our Most Worshipful Brother has been honored by official station the most exalted within the gift of the Grand Lodge, and had already received the highest honor open to Craftsmen in the State of New York by attaining the rank of a Past Grand Master, there still remained for him this great and illustrious work to which he has brought the judgment of his mature years, and in the accomplishment of which the lustre of his service as Grand Master and his fame as the scholarly Chairman of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence is dimmed by the more glorious radiance of his administration of our Home.

Canada for 1898 has a good notice. We are much indebted to Bro. Anthony for his valuable table of statistics, but we have only room for the concluding part :

STATISTICAL COMPARISON.

	1896	1897	1898	1899
Grand Lodges.....	57	57	57	57
Subordinate Lodges.....	11,493	12,045	12,186	12,201
Raised.....	41,543	44,556	42,394	43,542
Affiliated.....	17,482	17,422	14,050	13,841
Restored.....	5,804	6,329	6,165	6,632
Died.....	11,262	12,064	12,193	12,542
Dimitted.....	17,449	17,728	16,391	16,889
Suspended for non-payment of dues.....	17,944	18,933	19,177	19,122
Suspended and expelled.....	776	832	819	669
Membership.....	783,644	799,885	815,018	833,849

Based upon the tables we find, in the Grand Lodges of the United States, the following percentages :

	1896	1897	1898	1899
Accession by new work.....	5.41	5.69	5.69	5.59
Additions by affiliation and restoration.....	3.03	3.03	2.54	2.63
Losses by death.....	1.47	1.54	1.54	1.61
Losses for non-paym't of dues	2.33	2.43	2.01	2.46
Losses by dimission.....	2.27	2.26	2.38	2.17
Net gain of the year.....	2.07	2.21	1.88	1.71

In numerical standing the most prominent rank in the following order:		The average of membership to each Lodge is greatest in the following:	
New York	95,480	District of Columbia ..	212
Illinois.....	54,080	Connecticut	158
Pennsylvania	52,060	Rhode Island.....	137
Ohio.....	42,948	New York	128
Michigan	40,387	Massachusetts	125
Massachusetts	39,334	Pennsylvania	121
Missouri	31,360	New Hampshire	120
Texas.....	30,852	Maine	114
Indiana	29,954	Michigan	104
Iowa	27,907	Delaware	103
Maine	22,191	New Jersey	101
Kansas	20,103	Vermont.....	97
California.....	19,542	Utah	89
Georgia.....	18,611	Ohio	86

The jurisdictions having lodges of the largest membership are in the following order:

Grand Lodge	Subordinate Lodge		Location	Member-ship
	Name	No.		
Minnesota	Minneapolis	19	Minneapolis	816
Connecticut	Hiram	1	New Haven	776
New York.....	Genesee Falls...	507	Rochester	720
Illinois.....	Covenant	526	Chicago	673
Michigan.....	Zion	1	Detroit	635
Ohio.....	Magnolia.....	20	Columbus	604
Kentucky.....	Preston	281	Louisville	560
Washington D.C.	La Fayette.....	19	Washington, D. C.	559
Massachusetts	Roswell Lee....		Springfield	534
Colorado	Denver	5	Denver	530
Pennsylvania.....	Washington	59	Philadelphia.....	526
Rhode Island.....	What Cheer	21	Providence.....	523
California	California	1	San Francisco....	485

Lodges, 745 ; members, 98,180 ; increase, 2,700.

Wright D. Pownall (New York), G. M.

Edward M. L. Ehlers (New York), G. S.

NEW ZEALAND.

Annual Communication, Hokitika, April 24, 1899.

Richard J. Seddon, G. M.

The amount subscribed by lodges in response to appeals during the past year was about \$4,000.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland had accorded recognition on the same terms as the Grand Lodge of England. These terms were published in our last report.

The Grand Lodge of Hamburg has expressed its willingness to enter into fraternal relations.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland also recognized the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

Reports were received from seven Grand Superintendents of Districts. They indicate general prosperity among the lodges. The working is fairly satisfactory, but a uniform ritual is much desired.

At the semi-annual communication, held at Dunedin on Oct. 31, 1899, "undress" regalia was ordered for the Grand Officers.

The ritual question was postponed until next meeting.

An appeal case was thus disposed of:

(3). A complaint having been made by a Past Master against a lodge for having initiated a candidate without having given the notice required by the Book of Constitution, a special meeting of the Board to consider the case was held on May 30th, when, after hearing all the parties, the following verdict was given: "That the offence is hereby declared proved; that the lodge be fined the sum of £5, and be severely censured; and it is ordered that the candidate be re-obligated before receiving the second degree."

Against this verdict the lodge now appeals to Grand Lodge on the following grounds: "That Nos. 1 and 2 are too severe, and No. 3 covers no constitutional power for the Board to order an initiate to be re-obligated."

After discussion the following motion was made by the M. W. Grand Master: "That this Grand Lodge supports the Board of General Purposes in marking its sense of the offending of Lodge of Unanimity. That the Grand Lodge having, however, taken into consideration the whole of the circumstances, regrets that the lodge should have so offended, but, being the first offence, modifies the decision of the Board of General Purposes by reducing the fine to £1, substituting 'admonish' for 'censure,' and upholds the Board in ordering the re-obligating of the brother." Carried.

Lodges, 114; members, 4,916; increase, 367.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon (Wellington), G. M.

Rev. Wm. Donaldson (Dunedin), G. S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

113th Communication, Raleigh, January 9, 1900.

R. J. Noble, G. M.

On the state of the Craft he says:

I desire to congratulate the craft on the progress that has been made by the Order during the past Masonic year. New lodges have been established, dormant ones resuscitated, several new halls have been built, old ones refurnished, two magnificent temples erected, many new members added, and a laudable ambition has been manifested on the part of the lodges to procure and conform to the demands of the authorized work of the Grand Lodge.

Three new lodges were formed.

The Oxford Orphan Asylum receives the following notice in the address of the Grand Master:

It is with genuine pleasure that I mention our greatest charity, the Oxford Orphan Asylum—an institution which is the pride of every Mason in North Carolina—which was founded by our Order, is our property, and is under our management. Within its walls are the 219 jewels which are so precious to the craft and for whose welfare we work so diligently. Brethren, the Asylum is now in better shape than ever before. The Masons of North Carolina have so rallied to its support, in answer to appeals for aid, that it is now practically out of debt. No money has been borrowed this year for the support of the orphans, and the directors have managed so well that they have paid a goodly sum on the old debt, and I am sure that at an early day the sums promised by individuals and the Subordinate Lodges for the erection of the girls' buildings will all be paid, and then the Asylum will be entirely out of debt.

The receipts for the past three years are as follows: 1897, \$22,587.78; 1898, \$23,956.85; 1899, \$24,949.14. From this you see that your Asylum still continues to grow steadily in favor with the Craft and the general public.

Two bequests have been made during the year to the Asylum—one by Brother David Oettinger, of Wilson, of \$100; the other by Mr. Samuel Fogle, of Winston, of \$50.

There are 211 children being taken care of in the Asylum at a per capita cost per year of \$66.63.

Bro. John A. Collins reports on Correspondence and reviews our Proceedings of 1899.

Lodges, 311; members, 11,360; increase, 406.

B. S. Royster (Oxford), G. M.

NORTH DAKOTA.

10th Communication, Fargo, June 20, 1899.

George H. Keyes, G. M.

On the condition of the Craft the Grand Secretary says:

During the year five new lodges have been established. These facts show that Masonry in North Dakota is having a steady and healthy growth. Our increase is not so large as to indicate a fevered or unhealthy temporary condition, but a condition which is solid and substantial and more gratifying to the Craft than a growth which would not stand the ravages of time and a change of conditions.

Their finances are in a better condition than ever before.

The Grand Lecturer held numerous schools of instruction, but he thinks that the district system is somewhat of a failure, and that each lodge should have at least one day's school.

The Scottish Rite bodies in Fargo are erecting a Masonic Temple and they generously offered to the Grand Lodge the free use of an office for the Grand Secretary and rooms for the Library.

Lodges, 55; members, 3169; increase, 298.

John A. Percival (Devil's Lake), G. M.

Frank J. Thompson (Fargo), G. S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

34th Communication, Annapolis, June 14. 1899.

Thomas B. Flint, G. M.

The opening paragraphs of the address contain some interesting historical reminiscences.

Not only is the present moment grateful to our senses, but the past haunts us in this historic spot—flashing across our minds its pictures of health and storm, of siege and conquest, of weary years of patient toll as the forests fell before the axe, as the protecting dyke rose around the misty marshes and the wilderness and waste places became glad with happy homes and smiling harvests. The war shriek of the savage has died away and the fierce yell of the locomotive whistle has taken its place. Where once the emblazoned lilies of France waved in the breeze near this very spot, now the red-cross flag of Britain proclaims another sovereignty, as well as other social and industrial conditions.

One cannot reflect without emotion upon the long and painful years that have gone to live in memory, and which represent the toils and sorrows of generations whose hearts once throbbed beneath this sky and whose forms are mouldering beneath this dust. In the golden haze of distance they have become ennobled as well as immortal.

This locality is connected not merely with the first history

of organized government in North America, but with "the first glimmerings of Masonry" on this continent as well.

Nearly three hundred years ago some ancient brother deposited upon the shore of Goat Island, at a spot probably visible from this building, a stone, bearing deeply indented on its face the Masonic emblems—the Square and Compass—with the date in figures 1606.

This unique souvenir from that long-buried past was discovered after it had lain for over two centuries buried in the sand. In 1827 it was brought to Annapolis and became the property of the late Judge Haliburton. Its eventful history since then I cannot now pause to recount, but that it links the Masonic history of this community with that distant era in the world's history is a matter of profound interest to us.

In the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for 1891 a valuable historical paper by R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson, G. S., of that jurisdiction, is published dealing with this matter.

One hundred and fifty years ago this very town of Annapolis Royal was represented before the Masonic authorities in Boston asking for a warrant to open a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons here, and from Annapolis Royal in 1750 was issued the first charter for a lodge of Masons in Halifax. The library of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts contains an ancient volume—worth its weight in gold—published in 1786. It is entitled "A Record of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia." It contains an account of the rise and progress of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia from the first settlement to that date. It informs us that in 1750 a number of the brethren residing in Halifax met with Governor Cornwallis almost as soon as there were any houses erected there and petitioned Erasmus James Phillips, of Annapolis Royal, Provincial Grand Master, for a warrant to hold a lodge in Halifax. The warrant was received by them in July, 1750, and Governor Cornwallis as long as he resided in Nova Scotia was Master of this lodge.

Now to-day, a century and a half after, the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the successor of the lodge established by the warrant, and whose Grand Master might, without a stretch of Masonic truth, be called the successor to the Provincial Grand Master of 1750, at Annapolis Royal, meets in Annapolis Royal. We are here rejoicing over a year of good work done, a year when harmony prevailed throughout the jurisdiction.

The accounts show an improved condition in their finances. The trustees of Masonic Hall reduced the debt by \$1,000. The reports of the District Deputies show a commendable spirit of industry in the matter of visitations.

The Grand Lodge of Belgium was recognized.

A committee was appointed to confer with the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick relative to the consolidation of the two Grand Lodges.

A similar committee was appointed to consider the feasibility of a consolidation with the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island.

The report on Correspondence is by Bros. T. V. B. Bingay and W. E. Thompson. Bro. Bingay gives our Proceedings of 1898 a very cordial notice, with extracts from the reports. It is quite evident from his concluding remark that Bro. Bingay is not a Presbyterian.

Lodges, 61; members, 3397; increase, 14.

Thomas B. Flint (Yarmouth), G. M.

Hon. William Ross (Halifax), G. S.

OHIO.

90th Communication, Toledo, Oct. 25, 1899.

E. C. Gulliford, G. M.

In refined and beautiful language the Grand Master pays an eloquent tribute to the excellence of our Fraternity.

The institution which we represent to-day stands pre-eminent among the benevolent and fraternal societies of the world. Its acts of humanity are not confined to any land or kindred tongue, but reach to every clime where the god of day sends forth his shining arrows. It is found in every form and system of civilized government, and extends the hand of friendship to the rich or poor alike, be he a man. It dispenses untold charity among its members when in distress; it extends heartfelt sympathy and binds up the wounds of the afflicted; it lays to rest its fraternal dead, and drops the tear of affection upon the coffin of a departed brother; it counsels the living and protects its widows and orphans. Its golden wings of humanity and brotherly affection spread abroad and cover its members, whether in sickness or in health, in prosperity or adversity, and through the tender mercy of a loving God when the sands of life have ebbed to their finish, when the silver thread of life is broken and the disenfranchised spirit soars aloft, it consigns the soul to that higher temple in the Paradise, above the skies, and in the great East resplendent in glory. It will receive the final degree of Masonry from our Supreme Grand Master of heaven and earth.

They mourn the death of one of their most prominent members, Bro. Enoch T. Carson:

Full of years of glowing grandeur, ripe in acquirements of Masonic literature and classic lore, he stood a magnificent pillar of Masonic greatness, blending in his person the skill of the wise Craftsman, the integrity of the upright citizen, and the virtues of a friend. He was the glory of his family, a companion and friend whom you could clasp to your heart with joy and a citizen to whom any community could justly point

with honest pride. A scholar of rare attainments, he acquired all that the human mind was capable of grasping, while his delightfully kind and gentle wit graced the wisdom of a thoughtful and laborious career.

The ranks of their Past Grand Masters was also broken by the death of Bro. Charles C. Kiefer, who had held the chief position in all the Masonic bodies in Ohio, and who was widely known and esteemed as one of the most faithful and able members of the Craft.

We are very glad to know that clandestine Masonry in Ohio is fast becoming a thing of the past. The lodges are closing their doors and the members openly renouncing allegiance to these so-called Masonic bodies.

The lodge in Delaware has a magnificent Masonic Temple, the gift of one of their members, Bro. Sidney Moore.

New lodges were formed at Collingwood and Toronto. Collingwood is the terminus of the Buffalo and Toledo divisions of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway, and has a population of over 3,500. Toronto is a thriving little city of about 4,000 inhabitants, on the Ohio river, and on the line of the Pennsylvania Railway. May they prosper.

The Ohio Masonic Home has 129 inmates. The cost of maintaining the Home during the past year, including betterments, was about \$20,000, or 45 cents per capita on all Master Masons in good standing in the State. The Grand Lodge donated \$4,000 to the Home.

Bro. Stacker Williams, who has collected a large and valuable Masonic library of several thousand volumes, generously made a gift of it to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. W. M. Cunningham again reports on Correspondence. Canada for 1898 has fraternal notice.

Lodges, 501; members, 44,201; increase, 1,353.

E. L. Lybarger (Spring Mountain), G. M.

J. H. Bromwell (Cincinnati), G. S.

OKLAHOMA.

7th Communication, Oklahoma, Feb. 14, 1899.

Enoch M. Bamford, G. M.

On the state of the Craft he says:

The work for the past year in the Masonic field has been a pleasure to your Grand Master. I have not found that onerous duty of answering letters asking unnecessary questions.

which is the usual complaint of many Grand Masters. During the year very few questions have been asked me outside of those in his address. The year has been one of prosperity for the Craft in this grand jurisdiction. Our membership has increased both by initiation and affiliation, and I think it can be said that the material received will prove to be living stones in the Masonic temple in Oklahoma.

I think I can say with truthfulness that our lodges are over average in the work of Masonry and in transacting their business. It is true that some little irregularity has found its way into three of our lodges. Still these same members of our Masonic family in Oklahoma have been ready, very anxious and willing to correct their error at the earliest opportunity.

Our increase in the number of lodges in the last year has been over 25 per cent. Two of these lodges are at county seat towns with a starting membership of 23 each, and the others are in growing towns and villages, with every prospect of maintaining a healthy and steady growth. I believe our membership will be very materially increased this year. Our prospect for new lodges the coming year is bright at the present time.

Eight new lodges were formed. The following resolution on work was adopted:

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the committee on work, on or before the first day of the regular session of the Grand Lodge, to select a team, eminently qualified for such work, whose duty it shall be to exemplify the work of the third degree in the proper manner, on the evening of the first day's session of the Grand Lodge.

In his review of Canada for 1898, Bro. James S. Hunt has the following:

The reports of the D. D. G. M. are exceptionally thorough and full; there are fewer "I regret" in them than in any D. D. G. M. reports we ever remember to have read; certainly they are doing good work in the Province of Ontario.

Bro. Hunt also gives his views on some of the questions now being discussed:

As we have heretofore expressed our opinion upon most of the other and older questions, upon which Masonry is still at sea, we will pass them with a simple expression of our individual sentiments. The main proposition, making five years the limit of jurisdiction over rejected candidates we are in favor of. The adoption of this proposition by the several Grand Lodges, if it did nothing more, would bring us one step nearer the Mecca of Masonic harmony.

Drastic laws against non-affiliates we look upon as an impotent expression of a proper indignation against this growing evil, but otherwise actually barren of results.

The Wisconsin plan of relief we would not endorse, as the charity that expends the other fellow's money is hardly of a divine origin.

Suspension from all the rights, benefits and prerogatives of Masonry for the non-payment of dues, we denounce as unmasonic. It is a travesty upon that fundamental principle of Masonic and civil law, which protects every man and Mason in his rights, until proven guilty by due trial and conviction. Suspension from all lodge privileges would be a just punishment for a failure to help bear the burdens of a lodge.

8th Communication, Oklahoma, Feb. 13, 1900.
W. L. Eagleton, G. M.

Every lodge in the jurisdiction was given an opportunity to have a school of instruction, and a large number took advantage of the offer.

Six new lodges were formed.

A Board of Trustees was appointed to take charge of the funds for a Masonic Home voted by the lodges.

The formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge was not favored, and the Grand Lodge also declined to adopt the system of having Grand Representatives.

Lodges, 48; members, 2140; increase, 248.

Wm. M. Anderson (Enid), G. M.

J. S. Hunt (Stillwater), G. S.

OREGON.

49th Communication, Portland, June 14, 1899.

John B. Cleland, G. M.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That whenever the Master of a subordinate lodge shall find a child of a Mason in the jurisdiction of his lodge which needs assistance in obtaining an education, it shall be his duty to report the same to the Grand Master. The Grand Master and Committee on Educational Fund shall examine into all such cases, and on the 1st of September and February of each year shall appropriate to such children such sums as in their judgment are required for their assistance: Provided, that the total amount so appropriated shall not exceed the total amount of the income from the Educational Fund for the preceding six months.

An amendment to the Constitution providing that the "perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates should be limited to a term of five years, was rejected by a vote of 42 to 59.

All laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge referring to a Past Master's Degree were repealed.

The office of Grand Lecturer was abolished and three Custodians of the work are to take his place, each hav-

ing charge of a certain district, and with a six years' term of office.

In his review of Illinois, Bro. Robert has the following:

It would seem that an innovation had been introduced by some of the lodges in shape of robes, uniforms, military drills, inappropriate music, superfluous appliances and paraphernalia, which received, as it should, the condemnation of the Grand Master, which was strongly emphasized by the Committee on his Address. This disposition on the part of Ancient Craft Lodges to ape the theatrical scenes and gaudy display of ephemeral institutions bearing no relation and having no resemblance to Masonry, either in letter or spirit, merits the severest condemnation, not only because it is an innovation, but because it diverts the mind from the contemplation of the principles of morality taught in the work, and thus the sublime lessons involved in the initiatory ceremonies in the several degrees become of secondary importance, if not entirely overlooked.

Lodges, 99; members, 5095; increase, 49.

John M. Hodson (Portland), G. M.

James F. Robinson (Eugene), G. S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Just one month after his installation as Grand Master, Bro. Henry W. Williams was called to the rest beyond. At the Quarterly Communication in March, 1899, the Grand Lodge passed appropriate resolutions expressive of the high esteem in which he was held and of their great sorrow at his loss.

Annual Communication, Philadelphia, Dec. 27, 1899.

George E. Wagner, Acting G. M.

This Grand Lodge does not participate in any public demonstration and therefore declined to join in the Washington Centennial in Virginia, as appears by the following extracts from the letter of the Acting Grand Master:

Philadelphia, August 14, 1899.

Mr. A. R. Courtney, Richmond, Virginia:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother—I have received your esteemed and fraternal favor of the 9th inst. Of course it would be a great pleasure to meet you and discuss any subject with you, but so far as the matter of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania participating in the public ceremonies in connection with the Washington celebration is concerned, I must say to you frankly that nothing can be said or done that will alter our decision. Worshipful Brother Sener, both in person and by let-

ter and circular, gave us full information, and we doubt the ability of anyone to present it more fully or clearly. The reason given in my letter to your Most Worshipful Grand Master is the correct one, and there is "nothing else" held back. In Pennsylvania the Grand Lodge never appears in public, and, by its constitution, it forbids its subordinates to do so. We cannot do otherwise than decline your fraternal invitation.

Anticipating your thought that the statement made is inconsistent with the fact that corner-stones are laid in public and funerals are in public, and that our brethren participate in them, I say that neither Grand Lodge nor lodges, as such, do so. In the case of corner-stones, the Grand Master, or the brother having his authority, calls to his assistance such brethren as he sees proper, and the stone is laid. It must, from the nature of things, be done outside of the tyled lodge room.

In case of the death of a brother, the Master of the lodge calls the members, who attend the funeral as brethren, not as a lodge, because there can be no lodge outside of a tyled room, and it is, of course, impossible to bury except in a cemetery.

These two occasions, where Pennsylvania Masons may appear in public, are provided for in our Ahiman Rezon, or Book of Constitution; no others are. Under the well-known rule, "In Freemasonry what is not permitted is prohibited," there can be no public appearances of brethren except for these purposes.

Some one recently sent me a Richmond paper, in which I noticed the statement that all Grand Lodges, except Pennsylvania, had decided to participate. We regret that we should be so conspicuous as we, in every possible manner, endeavor to avoid publicity, and so far as we can repress all disposition for newspaper statements of our doings or purposes, believing that all Masonic business and work should be attended to behind closed doors.

Again let me assure you that there is nothing else held back, and that my official decision is in complete accord with my private feeling and judgment, and also that it is final. I am very much pleased with the fraternal spirit of your letter, and fully reciprocate your kind sentiments.

The address of the Acting Grand Master also contains the following:

Several curious and unlooked-for developments occurred during the year, showing strange views concerning the Masonic Institution.

In one case a lodge voted a donation from its funds to the Town Improvement Association for the purpose of booming the town in which it is located. Of course such perversion of Masonic funds could not be permitted, and the Worshipful Master was immediately telegraphed to stop the delivery of the money, which seemed to be quite a surprise to him and his lodge, but of course they promptly complied.

In another case a lodge decided to issue notices by postal

cards that on a certain day it was to take charge of the religious services at a certain place; as there was a difference of opinion among the members as to the propriety of this, it came before me, and I repeated former decisions that lodge notices "must not be sent on postal cards, nor advertised in the newspapers" (see Ahlman Rezon, page 187). I also advised the brethren that a lodge, as such, could not conduct religious services. The brethren are, of course, admonished to attend religious services at their several places or worship on all convenient occasions, but a lodge, as such, has no power or authority to assume the charge of any such service and notify its members to attend.

Another curious development was a request that permission be given for the formation and existence of a "Line Officers' Association," that is to say, an association composed of Masters and Wardens of lodges. This seems to be the mere copying of a scheme that has already been engrafted on other societies. Of course, no such permission was given; the Masonic Institution provides for a Grand Lodge and its constituent lodges; nothing else can be organized or recognized. It is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations. The establishment of a Line Officers' Association would be an innovation. It would be a useless appendage, so far as any good to the craft was concerned, and might be very harmful.

Another departure from the simplicity of our usages and practices is taking place in the matter of the lodge notice, which is gradually, under apparent competition between the lodges, becoming anything but "a thing of beauty and joy forever;" on the contrary, it is a thing of ugliness and grief; and, for the purpose of calling a halt, I will, during the coming year, refer the matter to the Committee on By-Laws, to prepare a proper form, which, if adopted by Grand Lodge, will be forwarded to all lodges, and compliance therewith insisted on, so that the present incongruous combinations may be prohibited and prevented. Some of them are "fearfully and wonderfully made."

They have 39 District Deputies who keep the Craft in good shape.

In his review of Maine, Bro. James M. Lamberton re-asserts their antiquity:

1. There was a Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, Brother Daniel Coxe, appointed by the Grand Master of England in the year 1730 (June 5), and there were Masonic lodges at work in Philadelphia during that year.

2. Brother Henry Price was appointed Provincial Grand Master of New England in the year 1733 (April 30).

From the above we draw the irresistible conclusion that Brother Coxe warranted the Philadelphia lodges.

We assert an undeniable fact when we say that there were

lodges in Pennsylvania before there were any in Massachusetts or elsewhere in America.

Lodges, 433; members, 53,446; increase, 1386.

George E. Wagner (Philadelphia), G. M.

William A. Sinn (Philadelphia), G. S.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

24th Communication, Charlottetown, June 26, 1899.

Leonard Morris, G. M.

The Grand Master of New Brunswick, M. W. Bro. Robert Marshall was received with all the honors due to such a distinguished visitor.

On the subject of Negro Masonry, the following report was adopted:

That the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island affirms its adherence to the doctrine of Grand Lodge Territorial Jurisdiction, which the experience of a century on this continent has proven to be a wise and wholesome doctrine, whereby Grand Lodges have been enabled to dwell together in peace and harmony. That we view with regret the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in the abrogation and setting aside of this doctrine by the recognition of dual Grand Lodges in a large number of the jurisdictions.

That the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island trusts that the Grand Lodge of Washington have already taken such actions as will restore that peace and harmony which have ever characterized the family of American Grand Lodges.

A committee was appointed to discuss the matter of union with the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Lodges, 13; members, 526; no increase or decrease.

John A. Messervey (Charlottetown), G. M.

Neil MacKelvie (Summerside), G. S.

QUEBEC.

30th Communication, Montreal, January 31, 1900.

Benjamin Tooke, G. M.

He mentions the death of M. W. Bro. John H. Graham, their first Grand Master and the distinguished brother to whose efforts the successful organization of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was largely due. In the Grand Lodge of Canada Bro. Graham occupied a prominent place and was greatly esteemed for his ability and his many good qualities. He was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec for nine years. We extend our

sincere sympathy to our Quebec brethren in the great loss they have sustained by his death.

On the situation between Quebec and England, the Grand Master has the following remarks:

In our own jurisdiction we have nearly sixty lodges on the register of this Grand Lodge, pursuing an honorable course and endeavoring to extend the usefulness of our fraternity. In addition to this there are three lodges still holding allegiance to England, under a government 3,000 miles away, which contribute to the general and benevolent funds of that Grand Body, and which are daily receiving material that by every written and expressed opinion belongs to this Grand Lodge.

The question naturally follows: Why do these three lodges stand aloof and refuse to join the great majority of Masons in this province and the general work of our fraternity? The only reason advanced so far is sentiment, and the opinion openly expressed by several earnest Masons is that isolation from us does not meet with universal favor among the members of these three lodges, owing in the first place to the general change of feeling throughout the Craft; and, secondly, to the knowledge that the best interests of Masonry would be served by united action. Further, if personal feelings and individual interests were not considered, and the fact realized that we are all descended from the same Mother Grand Lodge, and, above all, that we are Canadians, this long standing difference could be settled.

It is well known that the Grand Lodge of England is desirous that all lodges in this jurisdiction should be on the register of this Grand Lodge. She has encouraged this course by the refusal to appoint a successor to the late Hon. Justice Badgley, by the refusal to issue warrants for any new lodges in the jurisdiction, and still more pointedly in the recent amendment to her Constitution, plainly setting forth the honorable and constitutional procedure for all her subordinate lodges in the colonies of foreign parts desiring to cast in their lot with recognized Grand Lodges. The amendment reads as follows:

218B. Whenever Grand Lodge shall, with the assent of the Grand Master, recognize a Grand Lodge as a regular and independent sovereign body, having jurisdiction in any colony or foreign part where a District Grand Lodge or lodges in a district exists, and the Grand Master shall signify it is not his intention to grant for the future any warrant for a new lodge in that jurisdiction, the following rules shall apply:

1. Within six months after recognition the Master or every lodge in such jurisdiction shall convene a special meeting of the lodge on not less than 21 days' notice to every member, failing, the Master, the District Grand Master or the acting Deputy shall convene such meeting and preside thereat.

2. The brethren present at such meeting, whose names appear as subscribing members on the last return filed with the Grand Secretary, shall decide whether they desire that the lodge shall continue under the Grand Lodge of England or not. If the decision be to join the new Grand Lodge, the brethren

shall at the same meeting decide in whom the property and effects of the lodge shall be vested; and the warrant shall forthwith be returned to the Grand Secretary to be delivered up to the Grand Master. A majority of two-thirds of the members present shall be required to carry such resolution.

3. No questions shall be discussed or put at such meeting other than those above prescribed.

England entered into certain arrangements with the Grand Lodge of Canada at the time of her official recognition. The same terms were offered to this Grand Lodge in 1876, but declined by us in the hope that every subordinate lodge then existing would join this Grand Lodge and establish unconditional recognition. All handed in their warrants except the three now referred to, and to the continued refusal of these lodges must be laid the responsibility of a divided body of Masons in this province.

The state of the Craft is thus noted by the Grand Master:

"In no part of the jurisdiction can I point to the slightest element of discord. Our country is prosperous and the Craft at large is sharing in that prosperity; the brethren generally speaking are zealous in their work and the opinion universally shared points to an improved condition in the majority of lodges and their members. Close attention is paid to ritual, and a most desirable spirit of rivalry exists among the lodges as to who can be most impressive in their work. Situated as we are in a section of the world where the great majority is at present hostile to our fraternity, a net gain of almost 50 per cent. in our membership in the last decade is most encouraging."

Among the most important items of business discussed was legislation looking to the acquisition of the Masonic Temple as a permanent possession of the Grand Lodge, and the founding of a permanent benevolent fund, by a contribution from each member of ten cents per month.

The Grand Lodge contributed \$300 to the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Benjamin Tooke (Montreal), G. M.

John H. Isaacson (Montreal), G. S.

(The official Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec have not yet come to hand. For the information given above we are indebted to the Canadian Craftsman of February, 1900.)

RHODE ISLAND.

109th Communication, Providence, May 15, 1899.

Cyrus M. Van Slyck, G. M.

The lodges are in a healthy and flourishing condition and the brethren are living together in peace and harmony and working for the advancement of the Craft.

The special committee on balloting presented the following amendment to the Constitution, which will be presented for adoption at the next half-yearly meeting.

A ballot box shall be provided with a drawer, which shall contain the supply of white and black ballots, and with a hooded compartment in which a brother can deposit his ballot without the possibility of its nature being discovered by any person whatsoever. The Senior Deacon shall collect the ballots from the first three officers of the lodge, and then place the box upon the altar, and the Master shall notify the members of the lodge to cast their ballots. The Senior Deacon shall keep a tally of the number of the officers and members who cast their votes, and when the balloting has ceased shall take the box to the Master, and at the same time inform him of the number that have voted. If the ballot is found by the Master to be unanimous, or if there is more than one black ballot, and the number of ballots corresponds with the number reported, no further action shall be taken. If there is but one black ballot the Master may upon the presumption that mistake has been made, order a second ballot, which shall be conclusive; Provided, however, that if there shall be found in the box more ballots than the number reported by the Senior Deacon, the Master shall state the fact to the lodge, declare the ballot void, and the ballot shall not be taken again upon the petition of the same candidate until the next regular communication of the lodge.

A large amount of local business was transacted.

There is no report on Correspondence.

Lodges, 37; members, 5,220; increase, 58.

Milton Livsey (Providence), G. M.

Edwin Baker (Providence), G. S.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Annual Communication, Adelaide, April 19, 1899.

Samuel J. Way, G. M.

Congratulations were extended to the Grand Master on his recovery from a dangerous illness.

Relations were resumed with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

The lodges are carrying out the ritual in a creditable manner.

Lodges, 41; members, 2405; increase, 73.

Rt. Hon. Sir Samuel James Way (Adelaide), G. M.

J. H. Cunningham (Adelaide), G. S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

123rd Communication, Charleston, Dec. 12, 1899.

Bartlett J. Witherspoon, G. M.

On the state of the Craft he says:

The past year has not been distinguished by anything beyond ordinary events; still the Craft has prospered, and Masonry was never in a more flourishing condition within the jurisdiction. This prosperity is evidenced by the harmony and good feeling which exists in most of the subordinate lodges.

My official acts have been few in comparison with my predecessors, owing in a great measure to the wisdom of the Grand Lodge in codifying, and publishing the Laws and Code, and arranging them for ready reference. If consulted and read by the Worshipful Masters, little trouble will be experienced in coming to a correct conclusion of Masonic Law and Usage.

Our foreign relations continue undisturbed, and are of the most gratifying character. Your attention is fraternally invited to the able and interesting report of R. W. Brother Inglesby, Grand Secretary, which will be submitted at this communication, and I earnestly invite the attention of every brother to so admirable a review—giving the Craft information with reference to Masonry all over the world. The reports of our able and efficient R. W. Treasurer, Secretary, and Hall Committees, will furnish all required information, relative to the finances of the Grand Lodge.

Two new lodges were formed. Out of the 18 District Deputies, only three reported to the Grand Master as required by the Constitution, but reports from all of them appear in the Proceedings.

Bro. Henry A. de Saussure, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, delivered the following instructive address on Masonry in that island:

Historical and political events have fixed attention on, and aroused interest in, Cuba.

Tyranny, misgovernment, treachery, have produced their human and Masonic fruit; abhorrence of misused power, vindication of the down-trodden, admiration for fortitude, and for those bravely bearing hardships.

Beyond these general reasons, Cuba has special interest for this Grand Lodge, since Masonry was introduced there—if not first, at least contemporaneously with Pennsylvania in 1804, by establishment there of lodges and other bodies under the Supreme Council of 33d Degree Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Mother Supreme Council of the World, whose See is at Charleston, S. C. The Blue Lodges so established fell into desuetude, or became extinct, and this Grand Lodge in February, or early in March, 1818, on application dated 15th of March, 1817, issued its dispensation to La Constancia Lodge, "to be known as No. 50 on our Register," at Havana; and in

March, 1820, issued its Warrant to La Aménidad Lodge, No. 52, at Havana. No. 50 remained for years on the roll of this Grand Lodge, then became extinct. No. 52 enrolled itself under the "Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons in Havana," in 1821-2, by consent of this body.

Since then the Masonic intercourse between South Carolina and Cuba has been cordial and friendly, each Grand Lodge generally having an accredited representative near the other.

A more particular narrative of these relations now would divert attention from facts of greater present interest, out the "History of Freemasonry in South Carolina," the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge, specially of 1872, 1876, 1877, 1880 and 1891 afford ample information for those desiring it.

Such close historical connection with Cuban Masons, those, so to say, who have gone from this Temple, this "triple cord," must incite interest in their welfare, and tidings of how they have fared, how "Kept the Faith," be welcome, even should it prove that the story bear no greater value.

Sitting here to-night FREEMEN, in the safety and privacy that fact assures; "Tyled" indeed, but practically as a formality, it is hard to realize that such an officer and all the precautions against "cowens and eavesdroppers" were, long even lately, necessary for bodily safety, in a country so near as Cuba; yet such is fact. "Truth is stranger than fiction."

Philip II. raised Spain to its pinnacle of power and glory, but he stamped on its crown, as motto, "SUBMISSION, soul and body, OR RUIN," adopted, blindly followed, by his successors, weaker men, in more enlightened times. Spanish history, made under this pole star, shows despotic Spain regarding Freemasonry as the pioneer of freedom; in thought at least, the Tyrant's Nemesis; its assemblages as inimical political gatherings. Unnumbered edicts have forbidden Masonry in all Spanish domains; the one most pertinent to this occasion, dated 1st August, 1824, unenforced in Cuba till 1st November, 1828. On that day the Grand Lodge of Cuba was destroyed; its books, records and papers burned. Masonic martyrdom began; persecution was everywhere, at times with ferocity, then secretly and silently, ever unforgetting, unforgiving, unrelenting. A "Mason" was a "suspect;" meetings were difficult and dangerous, therefore few; the light burned low, but potent. This continued for thirty years, and though there were Masons left, naturally the Grand Lodge and Subordinate Bodies, by deaths, want of meeting, elections, etc., etc., became extinct. South Carolina, again on petition, chartered a lodge at Santiago where Cervera took refuge; violent persecution ceased, and though proscribed, the Order slowly but surely recuperated.

In 1868 it was comparatively strong, then fresh political troubles disturbed the island; Masons excited government suspicion. Without warning, without even pretense of trial, the Grand Master and nineteen others were seized and shot, at the village of Cobre, opposite Santiago, persecution was renewed.

On March the 5th, 1870, while holding a Lodge of Sorrow for

their murdered Grand Master, St. Andrew's Lodge at Havana was attacked by a mob; fifty-two of its members or attendants were arrested, and, escorted by Spanish troops, cast into prison, and orders issued for their trial. There their conduct was such that the jailor and physican sought admission to the Order, and were made Masons in the prison itself. Jesuit priests were sent to convert (?) these prisoners, one sermon was preached, alms were asked by them and given by those in jail, with the request "that the chapel be cleansed of its filth, so that God could be adored in a cleanly place. The gift was accepted, the chapel cleansed, but the priests returned no more." Perhaps the rebuke was felt.

The judge who conducted their trial was a Cuban; he found them guiltless, so informed the Spanish Viceroy, and of his intention to liberate them; immediately this judge was banished to Spain, but before his departure, on his petition, one of the Wardens and six brethren who had escaped capture, opened a lodge in the cabin of the steamer which carried him away, and made him a Mason.

Cuban Masons in Marseilles pleaded the cause of their imprisoned brethren, thus their plight came before General Prim, one of the Regents of Spain, himself a 33 degree Mason, and by his order cabled to Havana, the imprisoned members of St. Andrew's Lodge were released, after one hundred days' incarceration.

After that no Masonic gathering dared use the Temple. The Government confiscated it in 1871; the splendid library of St. Andrew's Lodge was given to the University; its organ to a founding asylum; its jewels and everything else to friends of the confiscators.

Till recently the cemeteries in Cuba were controlled by the Roman Catholic church; its priests ex-communicated the Masons, denied them burial in the cemeteries beside family and friends, and graves were of necessity found, where they could be, in common ground.

About the time of the St. Andrew's Lodge trouble, Bro. Claudio Vermay was arrested and sent to prison, charged with spreading "pernicious doctrines"; he was ex-professor of the University, a learned, meritorious, gray-headed man; his "pernicious doctrines" were advocacy and organization of educational improvement through the Havana Lodges. Nothing seditious was proved; he was pardoned, not acquitted.

The Masonic press also fell under the bann; one paper was then published in Havana, supported by the Craft; its circulation difficult.

One day the police entered the office, confiscated the copies printed, carried away the type and press, thrust the editor into prison; he, a Frenchman, through intervention of his consul, was banished the island.

Through all this Masonry lived. The next step was the institution—through a Masonic traitor and Spanish instrumentality—of clandestine lodges recruited from government employes; this failed to sow discord—rather drew the true Masons closer.

On 25th July, 1877, the Grand Lodge of Cuba was surprised during its Annual Communication, one hundred and eighty Masons fell into Spanish hands, but were soon liberated by Gen. Jovellar, a Mason, the chief of police having acted without orders.

The Island and Spain became reconciled in 1878, and the government assumed a benevolent attitude. Grand Lodges were established, one in Spain even; a new library was collected in Havana, a Temple was contemplated; Masonry had survived.

But in 1895 war once more commenced between Cuba and Spain; the cruel prosecution of which by one, and resolute resistance by the other, are current topics, needing no recital here. Its first effect on the Craft was outlawing of Masons, and decree in April, 1895, forbidding all their meetings. These were publicly abandoned, but privately held till Gen. Weyler came fresh from Spain, impressed with that motto: "SUBMISSION, soul and body, OR RUIN," but

"Old times were gone, old manners changed,"

save for that once powerful monarchy, surrounded by allies in thought and aim, now decayed and powerless, alike in self and allies.

Weyler used the ancient despot's solvent force, coercion. Masons were banished, still a Grand Master was chosen. He was a Spaniard, Mayor of Havana, hampered by official and conflicting duties, and by his position; he was no traitor, but was indeed a man who "assumed burdens he could not bear;" again the pall fell.

This pall was raised by result of the war between the United States and Spain, disclosing a quickly reorganized Grand Lodge, in communication at Havana, on March 26th, 1899, and twelve hundred as the number of the faithful who through all these trials have "KEPT THE FAITH."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews our Proceedings of 1898, giving us compliments on our Relief system.

Lodges, 185; members, 6056; increase, 216.

Orlando Sheppard (Edgefield), G. M.

Charles Inglesby (Charleston), G. S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

25th Communication, Yankton, June 13, 1899.

Louis G. Levoy, G. M.

Every lodge in the State was visited by a Grand Officer, and after noting this fact, the Grand Master says:

The reports make interesting reading, some startling facts being presented, and the condition of each lodge financially, as well as the interest of members in their welfare made very plain.

The work used in the jurisdiction is almost unanimously that adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The fees and dues vary according to the locality and home of the members, fees ranging from \$25 to \$60 for the degrees and dues from \$1 to \$6 per annum.

The greatest menace to the welfare of the lodges appears to be the amount of unpaid dues carried by so many of the lodges. It is from this source that we have so many suspensions, each year increasing in numbers, and I cannot but charge it up to the negligence of the Secretaries who permit such a state of affairs to exist, and who, if they are guided by or paid attention to the laws as they stand, such a condition would be impossible.

The total unpaid dues to-day owing the the several lodges amount to \$10,689.50.

The remarks of the Grand Master on Intemperance and the Want of Interest in Lodges are well worthy of attention.

The next subject is intemperance. I regret to say that I have found considerable of it, and in the hope of lessening it mention it here. To be a good man and Mason is to be temperate. It should be beneath the dignity of a true Mason to lower himself in his own estimation and that of his friends by intoxication. It brings reproach upon the fraternity, and the finger of scorn is pointed at our grand institution for harboring such an individual. You will say that we have laws that deal with such, as a Masonic offense. Yes, my brethren, but how often are these laws invoked, and if they are what is the result? Acquittal in most cases, and a recurrence, to the shame and dishonor of Masonry. To particularize: On one occasion the W. M. of a lodge I shall not name complained of this very case. I immediately asked him why he did not proceed as his code very plainly showed him to do. He said it would be no use, as a certain clique in the lodge would acquit him, and justice would not be done; that he feared that if anything was done it would cause graver dissensions in his lodge than maintained then. I immediately ordered charges preferred and the lodge summoned, giving the W. M. to understand that if justice was not done it would result in the loss of their charter. This seemed to bring them to their senses, and as a result harmony again reigns in that lodge. Brethren, by the laws of this Grand Lodge the door of Masonry is barred against him who sells liquors. Should we tolerate those who use it in such measure as to make their lives a reproach to themselves and families, and bring disgrace upon this ancient and honorable institution? A drunkard is unfit company for any man, let alone a body of Masons. Then, if counsel and advice have no effect, if shame will not bring to them a realization of their degradation and of the destruction of their souls, why, invoke your laws and place them beyond the pale of the fraternity, where their actions cannot

lower it in the estimation of those who otherwise think favorably of it.

The next topic is that of lack of interest in the lodge made manifest by the small average attendance at regular meetings. In many lodges with a membership of from 50 to 60 the records show that the average attendance is from 10 to 14, and when we consider that special meetings for work (at which usually there is a larger attendance) are included, you can readily perceive that not more than a quorum is usually present at stated meetings to transact the regular business of the lodge. This is not right, brethren; there are many ways to create interest and cause a better attendance of your members, so long as you continue merely to open your lodge, transact your business and then close it to go home, so long will this state of affairs continue.

The lodge room is your Masonic home, where you may rest from labors, from the cares of your business, and you may forget in the enjoyment of the company of your brethren that to-morrow you must again resume your active duties in your sphere of usefulness.

It is at the lodge room where we meet upon the level and part upon the square; it is there we should all realize the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, in the mingling of every sect, clime and creed calling each other by the endearing title of brother.

Then how necessary it is first to make your lodge room comfortable and attractive, remembering that you cannot make it too beautiful in the interest of the noble purpose of our Grand Institution.

Then, second, attract your members to some stated meetings by some literary program (after the transaction of regular business). This program may be in the shape of an address by some brother or a debate in which the brethren should all be asked to assist, or have some good reader amongst the brethren read to you selections from the report on the Correspondence of our Grand Lodge. This report on correspondence can be made a valuable auxiliary to securing interest among your members. From it many topics for debate may be selected. It is usually written for the Grand Lodge by some well-informed brother reviewing the work of other jurisdictions, and in this case is the work of one of our Past Grand Masters, whose work is known and appreciated from Maine to California, and the knowledge that his work is largely read and appreciated at home would be an incentive for further efforts to please and interest you—for this report is written for you and for your better information.

And, thirdly, occasionally invite your families to meet you at the close of lodge work; have a good social time in your lodge room; have a musical or vocal program, to be followed by some light refreshments, and you will all feel better for the effort and enjoy the communion of friends and brethren and realise that the lodge can be made a most pleasant abiding place, a home, indeed, where pleasant friendships may be

created and around which many lingering memories of pleasant hours spent will ever be with you.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of their formation was duly celebrated with imposing ceremonies. There was also prepared a Masonic Souvenir of the occasion, consisting of 24 pages of fine half-tone cuts. Among these are the portraits of all their Grand Masters with biographical sketches of their lives. The speeches at the banquet were decidedly above the average.

Bro. William Blatt again reports on Correspondence and reviews our Proceedings of 1898.

Lodges, 93; members, 4437; increase, 48.

William H. Roddle (Brooklings), G. M.

George A. Pettigrew (Flandreau), G. S.

TENNESSEE.

86th Communication, Nashville, January 31, 1900.

Joseph H. Bullock, G. M.

The remarks of the Grand Master on the ever-present subject of non-affiliation are very much to the point:

Non-affiliates, like the poor, we have always with us. That the number is large is, to some extent, the fault of our lodges. A dilapidated hall, dirty, uncarpeted floor, broken windows, a corps of incompetent officers blundering over our beautiful ritual (and I blush to say, we have some, a few, such lodges); this combination does not draw men together, and I do not wonder that some withdraw from such association. Wrong? Yes, they are wrong; they should stay with their lodge and do their part in securing comfortable halls and learning the esoteric work of the Fraternity. But I am speaking of conditions, not theories. They do withdraw. How shall we stop it? Answer: Make our lodges attractive; good, nice carpets and chairs, and pictures on the walls; elect officers who are acquainted with English grammar and rhetoric, who can impart the ritual in an impressive manner. Cultivate the social virtues, and remember always these words of the Divine Teacher: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another."

How shall we win them back? Before answering, let us ask in each case, Why did he withdraw? If because the lodge, 20 years ago, did not elect him Master, he asked for a dimit, why, you had as well let him stay out. The chances are that he won't do much, if anything, if he returns. If on account of pressing business duties, inability to attend meetings at night, or any similar cause, just tell him about our Widows' and Orphans' Home, explain how that for a dollar or two annually he may be a partner in this Grand Charity. If there is a spark of Masonry in him, that will bring him back. Pardon a bit of

local history: Twenty or more members of my own lodge, who from various causes had withdrawn, have re-affiliated, all because of a desire to contribute to the Home. Brethren, try the argument on your worthy unaffiliated brethren.

The average number of the inmates of the Home for the past year was 108, and the average cost per month was \$5.48. The endowment fund amounts to \$4,000, with more promised.

The following shows the condition of the Craft:

A comparison of returns for the years 1896 and 1898 shows a total net decrease in membership of 434. This is more than accounted for in the loss sustained from demised lodges during this period, which foots up 451. Part of this loss was doubtless caused by the levying of a per capita tax for the support of the Home, but when we compare our experience on this line with that of sister jurisdictions we have abundant cause to "thank God and take courage." The loss is much less than the most sanguine friend of the Home anticipated. I am convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that this Grand Lodge could not have adopted a better plan to strengthen Masonry than the one adopted, i.e., to take charge of and sustain the Widows' and Orphans' Home. It is to be regretted that returns from subordinate lodges can not be had in time to enable the Grand Master to report more fully on this subject. I am glad, however, to be able to report renewed activity in a number of lodges, and confidently predict that under present changed conditions in commercial and industrial lines the year 1900 will show prosperity in the annals of our lodge.

Bro. George H. Morgan reports on correspondence. In his review of Canada for 1899, he indulges in a sneer at the "Canucks," which is totally misplaced. He must have been "color" blind at the time, or he would not have accomplished such an extreme perversion of the facts. He says that our Grand Master and Grand Lodge approved of the obnoxious "Negro" resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Washington, while as a matter of fact the "approval" he mentions was strictly confined to the repeal of those resolutions.

Lodges, 429; members, 17,221; decrease, 27.

James H. McClister (Morristown), G. M.

John B. Garrett (Nashville), G. S.

TEXAS.

64th Communication, Houston, Dec. 5, 1899.

S. R. Hamilton, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master is a very able and interesting document, showing that all duties were prop-

erly fulfilled and that Bro. Hamilton was emphatically the right man in the right place. We extract as follows:

While some portions of our State have been devastated by unprecedented floods, and other parts have suffered on account of subsequent drouth, yet the greater portion of our jurisdiction has been blessed with abundant crops and an era of general prosperity and development appears to have dawned upon us. Capital, so long distrustful, seems to have been inspired with some degree of confidence, and is once more being invested, thus giving an impetus to business in general.

From personal information, as well as from information derived from official sources, I am disposed to believe that Masonry is keeping step in the onward march of moral and material progress. Greater care is being manifested in regard to the selection of proper material, and much progress is being made in the direction of toning the membership up on a higher moral plane.

As rapidly as their finances will permit lodges are purchasing lots and erecting thereon suitable lodge rooms. Many lodges, with wise forethought, are securing eligible lots in the business portions of towns and cities while they can be had, so that the lower rooms can be profitably rented for business purposes, thus bringing in a good revenue for charitable purposes.

Considerable improvement is also being observed in the furnishings of lodge rooms, and in the conferring of degrees.

Perhaps greater interest is being manifested in learning our ritual than ever before, and through our present efficient system of imparting the esoteric ritual, our authorized "work" is rapidly approaching uniformity, and ultimate success in that respect is now in sight.

Voluntary schools of instruction, taught by members of the Committee on Work, or by brethren holding certificates from said committee, have contributed largely towards this result.

The attainment of this end has been the earnest desire of this Grand Lodge for more than three-score years, and towards its accomplishment it has expended a liberal portion of its revenue. In addition to this outlay of means, many zealous craftsmen have unselfishly devoted to it the best years of their lives. Well might we congratulate ourselves upon the progress we have made, and that our authorized ritual is rapidly supplanting the conglomerate work caused by the introduction of Masonic provincialism in the early settlement of our state.

Brethren, the attainment of a high degree of ritualistic uniformity is indeed commendable. It is very necessary in its place. But let us not lose sight of the fact that Masonry is broader and deeper than its ritual; that behind its beautiful symbolism lies its philosophy; that its ritual is but the outcroppings, as it were, of a deep and hidden mine of rich moral and spiritual wealth within, worthy of being diligently worked by every craftsman.

There is a beautiful and mysterious duality in Masonry, an external, and an internal, a temporal part and an external principle, which connects it with that yet to come.

Our esoteric ritual might very appropriately be called the palladium of Masonry; it is the perpetuative medium of our order, and serves also as a means of recognition.

Our ritual has also a higher and a holier mission to perform. In the eternal wisdom of the Great Geometrician of the Universe, it is also designed to unfold to us the sublime philosophy of our ancient and mysterious institution. By the aid of revealed truth, it enables us to explore the wonderful arcana of God's gracious gifts to fallen man, and helps to illumine the pathway leading to the temple of holiness and happiness.

Having made such marked progress in the introduction of our authorized ritual, it seems that some attention could now be given, incidentally, to the moral application of our beautiful symbols.

By degrees the philosophy of Masonry can be thus unfolded, and a new charm added that would not only result in increased interest, but would inure to the moral uplifting of the membership.

I am of the opinion that, from now on our esoteric instruction should, to a reasonable extent, be illustrated and emphasized by moral application.

Even the reflection of Masonry, in the mirror of its ritual, is attractive; its shadow is beautiful—but transcendent in all its loveliness is Masonry itself.

Their new Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home was formally opened on Oct. 9, 1899. They have an endowment fund of nearly \$120,000. Their annual income is about \$14,000, which they estimate will barely enable them to keep 125 inmates. The building and land cost \$52,000, of which \$5,000 was paid by the lodge at Fort Worth, where the Home is located.

The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vera Cruz, Mexico, was present as a visitor.

On the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1899 in repealing their Negro resolutions, the following report was adopted:

It will be remembered that owing to the radical views adopted by the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, whereby it repudiated the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and declared that the negro lodges of this country were legitimate, giving its subordinates authority to hold intercourse and affiliate with spurious and clandestine Masons, we felt impelled to sever all connections with that grand body. It gave us no pleasure to do this. We wish to hold courteous Masonic intercourse with all legitimate Masonic bodies that adhere to the ancient landmarks and hold to the true spirit of

Masonry. But the conduct of that Grand Lodge was, in our deliberate judgment, such a departure from all the principles of the order that we felt that we had no recourse left.

At its meeting in June, 1899, the Grand Lodge of Washington adopted a certain report and resolutions, which are now the subject matter of consideration, by which it seemingly undertook to repeal the obnoxious resolutions of 1898.

We are free to confess that they are not satisfactory. They are couched in such a superfluity of verbiage as to leave great doubts of their real meaning. The writer of that report, with exceeding ingenuity, has exhausted the vocabulary in an effort "how not to say it." They constitute a fearful and wonderfully constructed instrument. They do not strike us as being frank or ingenious. Having read them carefully five or six times, we own up that we cannot understand them. We hope that this results from our inability to comprehend that style of diplomatic composition, and not from any design upon the part of the composer. We are reminded of the celebrated debate in the Georgia scenes upon the question "Whether, in popular elections, the votes of faction or internal suggestion should dominate." One debater after another commenced to discuss the question, stop short with an air of dismay, and say, "Mr. President, I will pay my fine; I don't understand the question." We are just in that fix. We throw up the sponge and are willing to pay our fine. We don't understand the report or the resolutions, and respectfully refer to Bro. Matthew's comments.

Will the Grand Lodge of Washington please tell us in plain English what it does mean?

Does it recognize the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction?

Does it repudiate all spurious Masonry and especially the so-called Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all of its officers?

Does it refuse to recognise and will it prevent its subordinates from recognising, holding intercourse with or affiliating with spurious or clandestine Masons?

We have tried to find an answer to the above questions, or even to some of them, in the report and resolutions, but have totally failed.

The answers to these questions, embrace in a nut-shell, the issue which induced us to suspend intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington; and until satisfactorily made, we must be pardoned for allowing the statu quo to remain undisturbed.

Lodges, 626; members, 28,141; increase, 432.

R. M. Lusk (Bonham), G. M.

John Watson (Houston), G. S.

UTAH.

29th Communication, Ogden, Jan. 16, 1900.

James D. Murdoch, G. M.

The march of Freemasonry in Utah has been onward, and prosperity prevails in all their borders. The Grand Master condemns the principle of rotation in office, and points out the qualifications that if present in a Master, should procure his re-election.

If a lodge has found a Master who is proficient in the ritual, and well qualified to rule and govern his lodge, it should not make him vacate the Oriental Chair after the first year's experience, simply because the Wardens, who may be good fellows, "hall and well met," desire to have the P.M. affixed to their names, and to wear on the lapel of their Prince Albert coats a Past Master's Jewel. It is all wrong. I believe that in some lodges the seeds of disease in their growth has been planted by this, to me most objectionable, "rotation in office" custom.

An inefficient Warden will make a poor Master, and should not be advanced in line.

The ancient regulations have bestowed upon the Master of a lodge the power of a king, and if he uses that power intelligently and zealously, the lodge and the craft will be benefitted by it. In my opinion the brother who occupies the Oriental chair should be able to confer the Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry correctly, according to the standard adopted by the Grand Lodge; but he should also be versed in Masonic history, and capable of explaining to the brethren the meaning of the various symbols connected with those degrees. But he should be familiar with the by-laws of his lodge, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the general regulations of Masonry; and when presiding should enforce them. When the lodge is at labor he should insist that dignity and decorum are observed, and should not permit hilarity, heated discussions, or any debates by which the peace and harmony of the lodge might be destroyed. He should reconcile brethren among whom contentions exist. He should be firm in his rulings, not hasty and overbearing, but courteous. He should welcome visitors, and extend to them the warm hand of a Brother Mason. He should always bear in mind that Masonry is labor, and that no Mason can attain any distinction among the craft unless he is a faithful laborer and Masonic student. He should be prompt in attendance, and insist upon a like promptitude on the part of his fellow officers and all the Brethren. The distressed and needy of his lodge should never apply to him in vain; his heart should always be warm, and he should ever bear in mind that "the greatest of all is charity." But above all he should be himself a perfect gentleman, moral, true and upright; in his daily walks of life he should be without reproach, and should ever deport himself so that his brethren can point to him with pride, and that his fellow citizens must honor and respect him. A brother with these qualifications will be an ideal Master. Brethren, have you found such a Master? If you have, re-elect him again and

again, and as often as he is willing to serve your lodge in the high and honorable station of Worshipful Master.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

Bro. Christopher Diehl says that the address of our Grand Master Malone in 1899 is an able and earnest Masonic paper, "with the right kind of ring to it." Noticing his decision against the initiation of two or more candidates at the same time, Bro. Diehl says:

A certain sect living in the town of Nauvoo, Hancock county, Illinois, obtained from Grand Master Abraham Jonas, of the Grand Lodge of that State, a dispensation to open and hold a lodge in said town of Nauvoo. The dispensation was dated Oct. 15th, 1841, and the lodge was named Nauvoo lodge. It was set to work March 15th, 1842, and from that date up to the following 11th day of August—five months less four days—the lodge initiated 286 candidates, and passed and raised nearly as many. A record of the lodge has not been produced, we can only guess how it was done. They must have been balloted for about a dozen at the same time and initiated, passed and raised an equal number at the same time. The seer, revelator and prophet, Joe Smith, and his successor in office, Brigham Young, were members of that lodge.

The work of the Canada Lodge shows that history repeats itself. That the Nauvoo fellows beat the Canadian brethren twelve to two is true, but the principle is the same. Grand Master Malone did well in calling a halt and stopping the wholesale business. The Grand Lodge of Illinois tried its very best to stop it, but it could not do it. Three lodges were formed out of the one, and the three—Nauvoo, Helm and Nye—made nearly a whole regiment of Master Masons during the twelve months of their existence, which, of course, was the end of the Mormon Masonic lodges in Illinois and in other lands.

Lodges, 10; members, 867; increase, 60.

George V. Schramm (Ogden), G. M.

Christopher Diehl (Salt Lake City), G. S.

VERMONT.

106th Communication, Burlington, June 14, 1899.

Daniel N. Nicholson, G. M.

On the condition of the Craft he says:

I have in company with W. Bro. Charles C. Miller, Grand Lecturer, attended all of the thirteen district meetings held in this state, which includes every district in this Grand Jurisdiction. I have in each case made a short extempore address, endeavoring to say something of an instructive character.

This tour among the districts and lodges has been a sort of review of the work done for the past eleven years. In June,

1888, I was appointed Grand Lecturer by the Grand Master, M. W. Alfred A. Hall, and received two successive appointments to the same office by M. W. Grand Master George W. Wing, in June, 1889 and 1890, thus holding the office for three years, being among the brethren of the state much during that period of time. I have also been in close touch with them as I have advanced up the official line, having attended many district meetings. I am prepared to state authoritatively, that is, from personal observation, that the Masons of Vermont have grown not only numerically, but Masonically, in intelligence. They not only know the work and lectures as nearly letter perfect as it is in the power of man to know them, but they have learned that the Masonic institution is not wholly based on the correct recital of the ritual; that the ability to so recite does not make a man a Mason.

They have learned the great fundamental principles of our order to a considerable extent. They have learned to respect their Alma Mater, the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and its lawful representatives, sent out to teach them, and instead of receiving instruction as an insult, they receive it in the spirit in which it is always given by our Masonic teachers. The Grand Lecturer is a welcome guest, they want to see him, and if a train is delayed they worry for fear he will not come.

I attribute all this to the persistency of the several Grand Lecturers and District Deputies in fitting themselves for the discharge of their duties, by attending the annual meetings of the Deputies, by careful study, and profiting by the instruction given by Grand and Past Grand Officers, through all these years, and then transmitting the instruction thus obtained to the brethren about the state, supplemented by addresses on Masonic occasions to the lodges by some competent brother chosen by the brethren themselves, and holding district conventions annually. I hope our present customs may be faithfully continued by those who come after us.

Freemasonry stands high in the Green Mountain State, and I hope its banner may continue to wave untarnished, over an ever increasing membership of the true and trustworthy, through all ages to come.

The Grand Orient of Belgium was recognized.

In this jurisdiction a Master who has served one year and has been re-elected to succeed himself, is not a Past Master until he retires from the Chair. This, we think, is contrary to the general rule. A brother who has actually served for one year as the Master of a lodge is certainly a Past Master.

In his review of Canada for 1898 Bro. Marsh O. Perkins has the following:

The reports of the District Deputies abound in interest, and make a complete pen picture of the activities of the craft. They also reflect the ardent zeal of wide-awake officials,

following in the footsteps of their earnest and enthusiastic predecessors, whose achievements have fully demonstrated to the Masonic world the incalculable benefit of the District Deputy system of supervision, when faithfully and intelligently employed. The reports are accompanied by tabulated statements of the amount expended in relief, the financial condition of the lodges, etc., and are valuable in many other respects.

Lodges, 102; members, 10,166; increase, 280.

W. Scott Nay (Underhill), G. M.

Warren G. Reynolds (Burlington), G. S.

VICTORIA.

At a special meeting on March 14, 1899, a revised Constitution was adopted.

At the quarterly meeting held at Melbourne on March 15, 1899, the Board of General Purposes reported the following resolution:

That in consequence of this interference with the ordinary business of the board at its regular meetings, caused by the time taken up in hearing charges and complaints; the board, under the power conferred by rule 239 of the constitutions, do appoint a committee consisting of nine members, together with the President and Grand Secretary, ex officio, to be called "The Judicial Committee," to meet at such times and places as the President shall from time to time appoint, and to report to the board. The special duties of such committee to be:

(a)—To consider all subjects of Masonic complaint or irregularity respecting lodges or individual Freemasons which may be referred to it by the board.

(b)—To decide the course of procedure to be adopted in all or any of such cases.

(c)—To investigate the same and to make recommendations with regard thereto; and

(d)—To deal with any other business, whether of a like character or not, which may be referred to it by the board.

A new lodge was formed at Port Arlington on April 21st.

June 21, 1899: A discussion arose on a motion providing that the Ancient Landmarks according to Mackey be printed with the revised Constitution. One brother said that they should be printed, because although the brethren were obligated to keep the Landmarks, very few ever saw them. The Grand Registrar pointed out that the difficulty was to find out what the Ancient Landmarks really were, and that Mackey's list had not been generally accepted. The motion was then withdrawn.

Lodges, 171; members, 7737; increase, 189.

Lord Brassey (Melbourne), G. M.

John Braim (Melbourne), G. S.

VIRGINIA.

122nd Communication, Alexandria, Dec. 13, 1899.

R. T. W. Duke, Jr., G. M.

A large number of distinguished visitors were present, and among them we find R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, our D. G. M., who made a happy response to his cordial welcome.

The ceremonies incident to the observance of the 100th Anniversary of Washington's death were conducted by the Grand Lodge, and were most imposing. The principal address was delivered by the President, Bro. McKinley.

The report on the address of the Grand Master contains the following paragraphs:

The Grand Master's references to the Masonic life and character of Washington were most fitting, and aptly expressed, and your committee would especially direct attention to the account he gives of the origin in Colorado of this grand national Masonic observance of the death of our distinguished brother, and also to the great unanimity with which the suggestion of our sister jurisdiction of the far west was taken up by the other Grand Jurisdictions of the United States, and by others beyond our territory.

The cordial welcome extended by the Grand Master to the visiting grand officers and brethren from other jurisdictions deserves and will meet with a hearty response of approval in the heart of every Virginia Mason. This has been fully exemplified by the fraternal greetings which have been so lavishly extended to their brethren by each and every member of this Grand Lodge, both individually and collectively. The welcome of your Grand Master was but an exposition of your own feelings and wishes on this subject.

The visitations of the Grand Master to the lodges in the different parts of this Grand Jurisdiction, so graphically described in his address, present a lovely picture of the fraternal spirit existing throughout our borders, and the universal peace and harmony that pervades our household. Your committee endorse with great emphasis the Grand Master's commendation of social gatherings of Masons with their wives and daughters around the festive board and otherwise. He has well said that there is "nothing better calculated to advance the cause of Freemasonry than such entertainments."

The exhortation of the Grand Master in behalf of that grandest monument of Masonic charity in this jurisdiction, the Masonic Home, cannot be too highly commended. It is gratifying to learn from the head of the Craft that the contributions during the year have been liberal and freely given, and that all the Masonic orphans who have applied for admission have been received into its care, and are being properly provided for. This most important subject will be thoroughly examined into by the standing committee specially charged with all matters of interest to their institution, and we do not deem it necessary or proper to make any recommendations in respect thereto.

In the report on Correspondence by Bro. Joseph W. Eggleston, we find the following remarks on our Proceedings of 1899:

It is not given to all Grand Masters to deliver addresses the beautiful diction of which charms the ear like that of Grand Master Sutherland, of New York, but there is another kind of excellence in addresses which is equally admirable, and a specimen is before us. Grand Master Malone's teems with sound Masonic counsel, and while it is evidently not intended as an impressive oration, it is clear English and sound sense from beginning to end. In reading it over only such passages as seemed too good to be left out of this report were marked for quotation, and yet they are far more in amount than space can be found for.

It seems that he called upon his District Deputies to aid him in bringing back into the fold as many as possible of the unaffiliates and those suspended for non-payment of dues, and he praises them for their successful efforts. Perhaps a little more work on this line may prove it to be the long sought panacea for the evil, but we fear that it is working from the wrong end. The large majority of those composing this class should have been turned back at the door when they first applied. We ought not to seek or even want vast numbers, but should, on the contrary, rigidly reject all but the good work, square work. If lodges will take in nearly all comers, they must expect in the nature of things to have much pruning to do as the result if the institution is to remain healthy.

Lodges, 269; members, 12,836; decrease, 68.

George W. Wright (Marion), G. M.

George W. Carrington (Richmond), G. S.

WASHINGTON.

42nd Communication, Seattle, June 13, 1899.

William H. Upton, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master is largely taken up with arguments and replies to the other Grand Lodges who declared non-intercourse on account of the Negro

question. One paragraph is worthy of notice as interesting to outsiders :

Thinking advice from brethren not influenced by local interests might also be valuable, I addressed a circular letter, under date January 20th, 1899, to 25 Grand Masters outside of the United States, inviting an expression of their opinions upon "any phase" of the matters involved, and requesting their fraternal advice as to the course I ought to advise you to take. I assured the brethren to whom this letter was addressed that what they said would not be construed as binding upon their grand lodges, and would be treated as sacredly confidential if they so desired. Their answers disclosed a very general wish to avoid appearing to interfere with American Masonic affairs. One Grand Master in British North America took what may be called the common American view. Another, the M. W. Grand Master of Prince Edward Island, thought we erred in expressing our opinion without consulting sister grand lodges. He thought "the problem" might have been "amicably settled" by a commission of representatives of all the American Grand Lodges; and that, in time, "the color line will fade, and eventually one United Masonic Fraternity will stand to help and bless its votaries." With these two exceptions, not one syllable of disapproval of the course of the Grand Lodge of Washington, unless in some small matter of detail, have I received during the year from any source outside of the United States. But, on the other hand, by Grand Masters and eminent Masonic scholars and jurists in nearly every part of the world, the Grand Lodge of Washington has been lauded for its courage, its appreciation of the spirit of Masonry, and its willingness to lay aside prejudice and let the spirit of the institution rule its actions; and the actions of those who have criticised us have been condemned as unwarranted infringement upon our sovereignty.

On the funeral ritual he says :

I desire to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact that the funeral ritual in use in this jurisdiction contains certain allusions which appear to be of a sectarian character. I allude to passages which appear to declare a belief in the resurrection of the physical body, as distinguished from the soul and spiritual body. Such a belief may be the true one—no Mason, as a Mason, has a right to say that it is not. But it is not one of the teachings of Masonry, and is offensive to the ears of brethren who believe otherwise. I therefore recommend that this matter be referred to a committee to report at our next annual communication. I also find, in a monitor compiled by a former officer of this Grand Lodge and extensively used by our brethren, certain expressions of a distinctly Christian character. These should not be used in our lodges.

Two new lodges were formed. No cases of grievance of any consequence were reported. The year's work

shows a decided and gratifying improvement over that of recent years. Comparatively few have been dropped for n.p.d.

The report of the special committee on Negro Masonry was almost unanimously adopted as follows:

The Grand Lodge of Washington, in response to the several requests of the M. W. Grand Lodges of Maryland, Rhode Island, Virginia, Utah, Massachusetts and Maine, to the effect that it reconsider its action of last year in adopting four resolutions relating to the subject of Masonry among the negroes of America, printed at page 60 of its Proceedings for 1898, doth now fraternally declare as follows:

First, That it appreciates to the fullest extent the fraternal feeling and the zeal for Masonry which actuated its sister Grand Lodges in making the requests referred to, and the courteous language in which those requests, in the greater part, are framed.

Second, That it trusts its sister Grand Lodges appreciate the fact that these requests are presented to it at a time when it is facing attacks upon its autonomy and sovereignty which, if successful, would result not only in the destruction of its Masonic independence, but, ultimately, in the abrogation of that principle of local self-government, subject to the Landmarks only, which has prevailed among Masons from time immemorial; and that as these assaults are connected with the resolutions to which our good brethren allude, this Grand Lodge would hardly be blameworthy if it declined—so long as an enemy is at its gate breathing threatenings and slaughter—to take any step that might be construed as a concession to threats, or that might encourage similar attacks upon it or upon others, in the future.

Third, That, notwithstanding these deterrent circumstances, feeling itself strong enough, with the blessing of God, to defend the interests of Masonry committed to its keeping, even against the attacks of misguided brethren; and being most desirous of promoting that harmony which all recognize as the very keystone of Masonry; in further continuance of its brotherly love and friendship for the M. W. Grand Lodges of Maryland, Rhode Island, Virginia, Utah, Massachusetts, and Maine, this Grand Lodge unhesitatingly and with unmixed pleasure, declares its willingness to comply with said requests to the fullest possible extent.

Fourth. That accordingly it has carefully reconsidered its said action and resolutions of last year, with the results stated below.

Fifth. That this Grand Lodge does not see its way clear to modify in any respect the first of said resolutions, but reaffirms the same as follows:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, Masonry is universal; and, without doubt, neither race nor color is among the tests proper to be applied to determine the fitness of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry."

And, conconantly with the spirit of that resolution, this Grand Lodge would fraternally suggest to the whole fraternity, and more especially to those Grand Lodges whose laws forbid the initiation of men of a certain race, the propriety of carefully considering whether such laws are not inconsistent with the spirit of Freemasonry, and whether they place beyond the pale of Masonry the bodies which enact them. Upon the latter of these questions this Grand Lodge expresses no opinion at this time.

Sixth. That it is manifest to this Grand Lodge that the second of its said resolutions, while entirely clear to all the members of this jurisdiction, has been very generally misunderstood elsewhere; and, in particular, that the latter part of it has been erroneously understood to accord recognition to certain organizations incidentally mentioned therein. Therefore, with the hope of removing all misunderstandings, and satisfying every reasonable objection, said resolution is hereby repealed. And whereas, the relations of the Grand Lodge of Washington with the present M. W. United Grand Lodge of England during the whole existence of this Grand Lodge have been and now are of the most fraternal and cordial character. In view of this and other circumstances, including its own descent, the comity due from one Masonic body to another, and its duty to preserve harmony among its own members, this Grand Lodge does not see its way clear to deny or question the right of its constituent lodges or of the members thereof to recognize as a brother Mason any man (otherwise in good Masonic standing) who has been regularly initiated into Masonry by authority derived, regularly, and strictly in accordance with the laws of the Masonic Institution, from the United Grand Lodge of England or from either of the two Grand Lodges which joined in forming that United Grand Lodge in 1813, so long as the regularity of such initiations remains unquestioned by the United Grand Lodge of England; provided, always, that such initiation conflict with no law of the Masonic Institution, and that the old landmarks be carefully preserved.

Seventh. That whereas, the third of said resolutions has been widely—though erroneously, as this Grand Lodge believes—supposed to encourage the establishment of a second Grand Lodge within the State of Washington; and whereas, it appears to be open to the objection of pledging this Grand Lodge to a course in future years which may not be consistent with the judgment of the brethren then composing the Grand Lodge; and whereas, this Grand Lodge is not insistent upon any one plan for dealing with the matter to which that resolution relates, but is willing to consider any plan that may preserve harmony and subserve the ends of truth and justice; and whereas, the publication of that resolution for one year has served—with our own members and with all by whom the meaning intended was understood—all necessary purposes, and its further publication might lead to further misapprehensions; therefore it is now—

Resolved, That said third resolution be repealed.

Eighth. That this Grand Lodge fully confirms the several assurances given by its M. W. Grand Master during the year, that it has not accorded recognition to a second Grand Lodge in any state or country.

Ninth. That whereas, it seems to have been supposed by some of the Grand Lodges named above that this Grand Lodge is not in sympathy with the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction, and might favor dual Grand Lodges, this Grand Lodge declares that that supposition is erroneous, and that the circumstances in her history which appear to have led them to that opinion were, to a large extent, occasioned by her desire to avoid a course which she supposed might disturb the harmony of sister jurisdictions.

Tenth. That whereas certain novel and erroneous notions upon the subject of Masonic government, pernicious and destructive if put in practice, have recently been asserted and adopted with the apparent desire of hampering this Grand Lodge and destroying its independence, this Grand Lodge most emphatically declares that while it expects to continue the practice of that comity towards and consideration for other Grand Lodges which have characterised every portion of its past history, it will not tolerate the slightest infringement from any source whatever, under claim of right, upon its powers and prerogatives as the sole and supreme constitutional head of a body of independent Masonic Lodges; and, in particular, it maintains that it is "amenable to no superior jurisdiction under heaven," and, except during its own pleasure, is subject, in matters of Masonry, to no law except the Landmarks of Masonry and its own constitution; and it totally repudiates, as a recent innovation and one destructive of harmony and subversive of inalienable Masonic rights, the idea that a Grand Lodge or its constituent lodges are legally or morally bound by regulations adopted, without their assent, by other Grand Lodges. Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the plenary rights to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the status of all persons, claiming to be Masons, who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation. This right has been inherent in Masonic lodges since the dawn of Masonic history, and in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, is not to be questioned; yet it is always to be exercised with due comity toward sister lodges, and with the most strict regard for every law of Masonry.

This Grand Lodge has been led to make these declarations of her opinions and purposes, as well as by a belief that some fundamental principles of Masonry have been overlooked by those who have attacked or criticized her, as by a sincere desire to promote that harmony which is the peculiar strength and support of our institution, for the disturbance of which she is unable to consider herself in any way responsible. She makes no claim to inerrancy of judgment; and wherein she may be in error, whether in these declarations or in any other

matter whatsoever, she will always be glad to correct her mistakes. She feels, however, that she is the peer of any Grand Lodge, and that her reason and her love of Masonry should be appealed to, instead of resorting to contumely, reproaches, and violence against her. The world's witnesses that this has not always been done; and while she utters few complaints, grief and disappointment fill her heart when she ponders on the words and actions of some of those of whom she had reason to expect better things.

Finally. The Grand Lodge of Washington sends fraternal greetings to all true brethren throughout the world, of every race, clime and creed. May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and Masonic virtue cement us.

The Grand Representative system was restored.

Lodges, 100; members, 4949; increase, 316.

William M. Seeman (Fort Steilacoom), G. M.

Thomas M. Reed (Olympia), G. S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

35th Communication, Martinsburg, Nov. 15, 1899.

Joseph Hall, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master occupied two hours and twenty minutes in its delivery and it covers 59 pages of the Proceedings. All the acts of the year are given in detail, with much good advice to the brethren. Three new lodges were opened.

For the first time in the history of the Grand Lodge all the eleven District Deputies handed in their reports. The Craft is in fine condition and the lodges prospering.

A resolution to abolish the Past Master's Degree was indorsed by the Grand Lodge and lies over for one year before final action.

The Grand Secretary presented his 14th report on Correspondence, covering 280 pages and giving an exhaustive review of all the jurisdictions, including Canada for 1899. He regards the address of Grand Master Malone as a very able production, and praises up our work as follows:

The District Deputy Grand Masters' reports are so complete and exhaustive, it is a real pleasure to read them. Usually these officers visit every lodge in their respective districts; and in submitting reports to the M. W. Grand Master, they enter into the minutest details as to the condition of every lodge in their respective districts. These reports furnish the real condition and actual history of every lodge in the jurisdiction. I have so often, in my reviews of the proceedings of this M.W.

Grand Lodge, adverted to these reports of District Deputies, that it will appear a work of supererogation to repeat it again. Suffice it to say that I have found no other Grand Lodge on, or off this continent, which receives reports of the general high character of these of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada. It is said that "comparisons are odious," and they are; but let "the offended brother" rise up and complain as to the comparison above made. He will not be found on either of the hemispheres, or on the islands of the seas. He will remain silent.

Lodges, 119; members, 6567; increase, 316.

Neil Robinson (Charleston), G. M.

George W. Atkinson (Charleston), G. S.

WISCONSIN.

55th Communication, Milwaukee, June 13, 1899.

James G. Monahan, G. M.

In these days of special dispensations for all sorts of purposes the following comes to us with a genuine refreshing coolness, and we cannot but admire the Grand Master's firmness and good sense :

I refused to grant a dispensation to permit several officers of one of our regiments to be ballotted for in the lodge at their home, waiving constitutional time, and allow a lodge in a foreign jurisdiction to confer the degrees. In so doing I took the position that the officers were all of mature age, and comfortably fixed financially; that for many years they had resided in a city where there was a strong, active lodge, yet they had never sought admission; and I could not help but think that they were then seeking to join the Order more for what Masonry would do for them than what they could do for Masonry.

The Grand Secretary is of the opinion that there does not seem to be occasion to go to the cost of erecting—and the greater expense of maintaining—a Masonic Home for the few who would be found to avail themselves of its privileges.

The Grand Lecturer reports the usual schools of instruction held with good attendance, and a general improvement in the lodges.

In his review of Kansas, Bro. Aldro Jenks has the following very sensible remarks on public appearances :

We are in full accord with our distinguished Correspondent with his views concerning the propriety of lodges attending public worship in regalia, and with him "we wonder what part a few white gloves can have in the worship of God. Lodge regalia has its use and place, but in this day and age we think it should not be worn in public worship. It detracts

the minds, attracts the audience, and destroys true worship. If the lodge goes for the purpose of worship, regalia will not be needed. "Lodges should not be seen in public merely for show or help others make a show."

Lodges, 237; members, 17,421; increase, 195.

Charles E. Whelan (Madison), G. M.

John W. Laflin (Milwaukee), G. S.

WYOMING.

25th Communication, Cheyenne, Sept. 13, 1899.

J. M. Rumsey, G. M.

The Grand Master's suggestion as to forming a Supreme Grand Lodge does not seem to have been received with much approval.

I may also say, during the past year, I have addressed a letter to the different Grand Masters throughout the United States, asking their opinion of the advisability and practicability of establishing a Supreme or Sovereign Grand Lodge, after the analogy of similar organizations in other Masonic Orders.

I wish to say very distinctly that my letter on this subject was merely tentative and experimental. My object was simply to get an approximate consensus of opinion on the subject, in its most general form, and I am aware that such changes as this could only safely and wisely be made, after thorough consideration and general consent.

This I have offered "for the good of Masonry." If, at some future time, it passes into effect, I shall have some satisfaction in having had some small share in its creation; if the maturer consideration of those more experienced than myself rejects it as unnecessary and unwise, I shall in no way feel aggrieved.

The reception accorded to my suggestions by the different Grand Masters has been various, and I will frankly state it. Some endorse the idea, while feeling that a unanimous approval is not to be expected at present; some approve it, with certain safeguards and modifications; some are sympathetic, while non-committal, while others are opposed to the scheme in any shape or form.

The chief objection seems to be that such a proposal is a menace to the independence and sovereignty of the Grand Lodge in each State, and some feel that the necessary expense would be a drag upon the Order everywhere. I am bound to say that I cannot see that any form of a sovereign Grand Lodge which was created by the free and unanimous suffrages of all the Grand Lodges could possibly be an injury to those lodges, while the principle for which I am contending is already acknowledged by the very Grand Lodges themselves.

Every lodge is, in a sense, sovereign and independent; yet

all the lodges are obedient to the Grand Lodge, whose Master may, at any time, enter their preparation rooms and preside over their meetings. I can conceive circumstances in which the interference of the Grand Master of any State, in the local affairs of any lodge, might be resented, yet this does not prevent the most cordial relations from existing between the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of any State. Neither, of course, would a Supreme Grand Master interfere with the local affairs of any individual Grand Lodge.

The idea of the sovereignty of every Grand Lodge is good, and I am not in favor of anything that would impair it, but it is evident that that supremacy, being a State supremacy, cannot possibly have anything to say concerning those questions which are larger than Grand Lodge questions and belonging to Freemasonry everywhere.

I only plead for a tribunal which shall voice the sentiments of all the Grand Lodges, when necessary, and not for an authority outside them all, to which they do not contribute, and of which they are not a part. My idea is federal, not autocratic; central, not despotic; the united voice of all, focussed into a single lodge; not an arbitrary power, responsible to none and dominating all. If my idea is faulty, imperfect and injurious, it will be, and ought to be, rejected; if it is wise, sound and Masonic, it will ultimately prevail and I am content to wait in this, and in other necessary matters of reform and progress, for "more light."

The following by-law was adopted:

It shall be and is hereby made the imperative duty of lodges in this jurisdiction to restrain as far as possible the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors or beverages of every kind and character and for the faithful performance of this duty each lodge shall be held accountable to the Grand Lodge.

The following report of the committee on Jurisprudence was adopted:

1. That in our opinion the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master with reference to the restoration of those members suspended for non-payment of dues, should not be adopted. The effect must be to prevent such restoration in the majority of cases, and members are not usually so suspended, who would care for restoration, except their condition has been such as to make it possible for them to pay their dues.

2. That the previous action of the Grand Lodge concerning the interchange of Grand Representatives be not reconsidered.

3. That the question of a Masonic Home be referred to a special committee of three to report at the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

4. That as to the adoption of an official work prepared by one of our Past Grand Masters, we recommend the matter be referred to a special committee of three to report at our next annual communication.

The repeal of the recognition of Negro Masonry resolutions by the Grand Lodge of Washington does not seem to be satisfactory and a more explicit declaration is asked for:

Your Committee, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master as relates to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in recognizing Negro Masonry, and the report of a committee of seven Past Grand Masters, recommending said action at the recent Annual Communication of that Grand Body, respectfully report that we have considered the subject matter and recommend that the action of our M. W. Grand Master in requesting a special report from the Committee on Correspondence, and in printing and distributing the report, be and the same is hereby approved, and that said report be approved as voicing the sentiment of this Grand Lodge upon the question involved. Your Committee is of opinion that whilst the Grand Body has considered the resolutions adopted in 1898, it has not abandoned the position assumed that Negro Lodges and Grand Lodges deriving their descent from the so-called African Lodge, No. 459, are to all intents and purposes legitimate Masonic bodies, and the members thereof entitled to visit regular lodges and be affiliated therein. In proof of this we quote the following from the recent report reconsidering said action: "In view of this and other circumstances, including its own descent, the comity due from one Masonic body to another, and its duty to preserve harmony among its own members, this Grand Lodge does not see its way clear to deny or question the right of its constituent lodges or of the members thereof, to recognize as a brother Mason any man (otherwise in good Masonic standing) who has been regularly initiated into Masonry by authority derived regularly and strictly in accordance with the laws of the Masonic Institution, from the United Grand Lodge of England or from either of the two Grand Lodges which joined in forming the United Grand Lodge in 1813, so long as the regularity of such initiation remains unquestioned by the United Grand Lodge of England; provided, always, that such initiation conflict with no law of the Masonic Institution, and that the old landmarks be carefully preserved." In addition to the foregoing quotation, your committee quotes the following from the tenth sub-division of said report:

"Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the plenary rights to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the status of all persons claiming to be Masons who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting it or as applicants for affiliation.

Your Committee agrees with the position assumed in the last quotation, when applied to Masons made in regular, just and lawfully constituted lodges, recognized as such everywhere, but dissent therefrom when applied to men claiming to be Ma-

sons, whether white or colored, who are held and declared to be clandestine by the Grand Lodges of the country, either singly or collectively. Your Committee is further of the opinion that any man or body of men held and declared by a Grand Lodge to be clandestine are such everywhere and that any Grand Lodge that cannot see its way clear to prohibit the membership of its obedience from setting aside a fundamental law by absolving themselves from the obligations assumed when becoming members, but on the contrary directs such membership to release themselves from their obligations by recognizing clandestine Masons held to be such everywhere in this country except within that jurisdiction whenever they are pleased to visit or apply for affiliation, has no right either legally or morally to object or complain when other Grand Lodges that have declared such visitors or applicants for affiliation clandestine, cease fraternal relations therewith.

Your Committee, whilst recognizing, endorsing and upholding the doctrine that every Grand Lodge is sovereign and supreme in the control of matters Masonic within its territorial jurisdiction, are of the opinion that there is a distinction or rather a limit beyond which no Grand Lodge can place itself without jeopardizing its status among the Grand Lodges of our country, and any Grand Lodge that recognizes or permits or directs the membership of its constituents to recognize or affiliate with any man or body of men declared by any other Grand Lodge to be clandestine, places itself beyond the limit and thereby becomes subject to review by all other Grand Lodges. In other words, no Grand Lodge can set aside or permit its subordinates, much less license the latter, to set aside a fundamental law without subjecting itself to review by all other Grand Bodies as in the recent case of Peru and the Grand Lodge of Washington itself.

Your Committee regrets that the Grand Lodge of Washington did not see its way clear to simply and directly reconsider everything connected with its action of 1898, and remove all grounds of complaint and thus restore peace and harmony that should exist between regular Masons everywhere instead of providing ways and means to evade and set aside such reconsideration which the recent report taken as a whole clearly establishes, as evidenced by the quotations cited herein and other language contained in said report.

In view of the unsatisfactory contents of said report your committee feels constrained to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Washington be and is hereby fraternally requested to declare explicitly whether any man or body of men, whether white or black, claiming to be Masons, held and declared to be clandestine everywhere in this country or by any Grand Lodge, are or will be permitted to visit or affiliate with any of its constituent lodges, or be recognized by the membership thereof as regular Masons.

We extend our deep sympathy to Bro. William L. Kuykendall in the loss of his life partner. His report

was prepared under sorrowful circumstances. Canada for 1898 has a good notice.

Lodges, 16; members, 1044; increase, 59.

E. P. Bowman (Newcastle), G. M.

William L. Kuykendall (Saratoga), G. S.

All of which is faithfully submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON, Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, June 11, 1900.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1899	New Brunswick	1899
Arizona	1899	New Hampshire....	1899
British Columbia ...	1899	New Jersey	1900
California	1899	New Mexico	1899
Colorado	1899	New South Wales ..	1899
Connecticut	1900	New York	1899
Delaware	1899	New Zealand	1899
District of Columbia.	1899	North Carolina....	1900
England	1899	North Dakota	1899
Florida	1900	Nova Scotia.....	1899
Georgia	1899	Ohio	1899
Idaho	1899	Oklahoma	1899-1900
Illinois	1899	Oregon	1899
Indiana	1899	Pennsylvania	1899
Indian Territory....	1899	Prince Edward Isl'd.	1899
Iowa	1899	Quebec	1900
Kansas	1900	Rhode Island	1899
Kentucky	1899	South Australia	1899
Louisiana	1900	South Carolina	1899
Maine	1899	South Dakota	1899
Manitoba	1899	Tennessee	1900
Maryland	1899	Texas	1899
Massachusetts	1899	Utah	1900
Michigan	1900	Vermont	1899
Minnesota	1900	Victoria	1899
Mississippi	1900	Virginia	1899
Missouri	1899	Washington	1899
Montana	1899	West Virginia.....	1899
Nebraska	1899	Wisconsin	1899
Nevada	1899	Wyoming	1899

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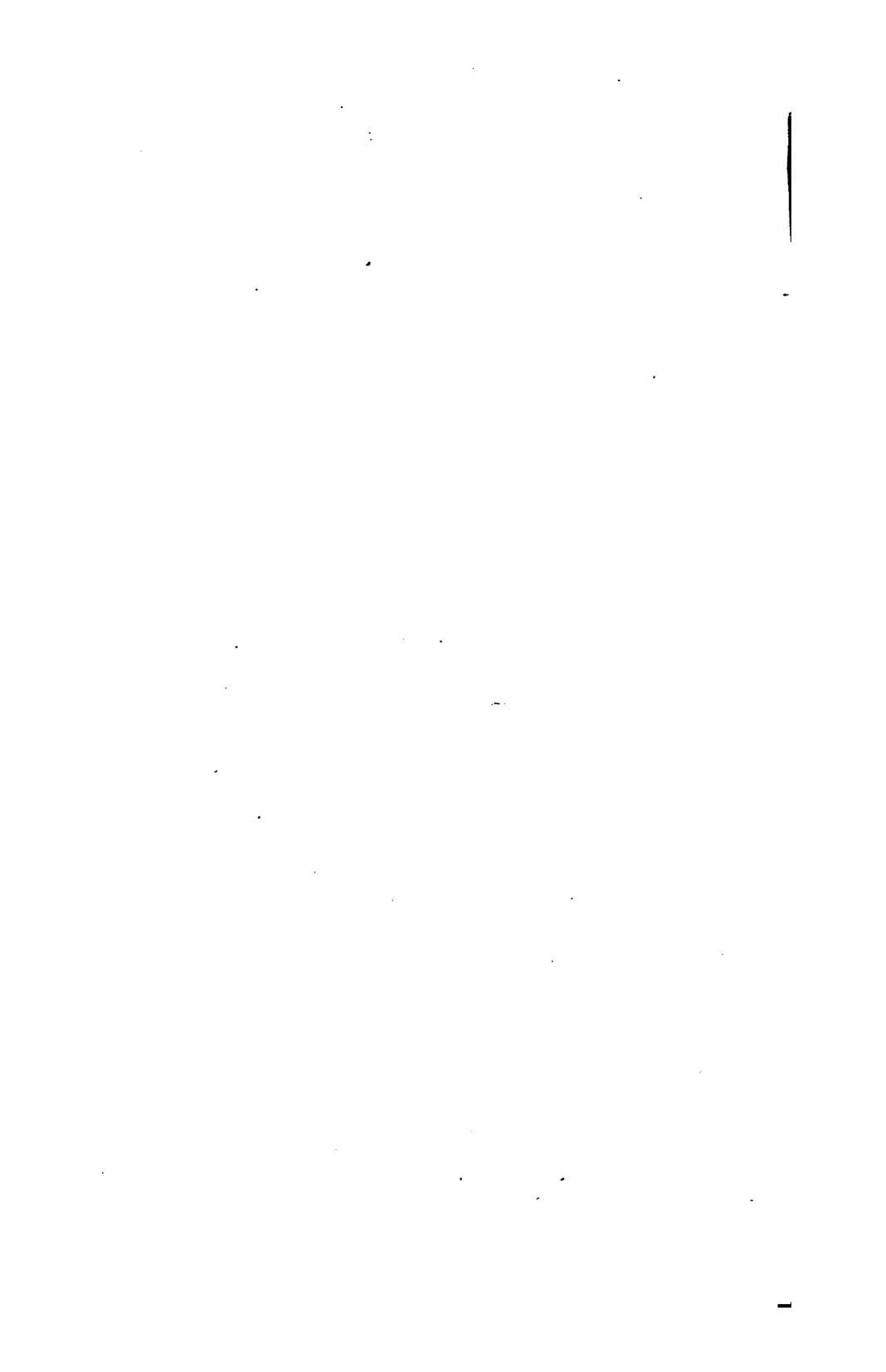
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1900

THE GRAND LODGE OF Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

ELECTED OFFICERS, A. L. 5900-5901.

M. W. Bro. Richard B. Hungerford,	London,	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding,	Q. C., Lindsay,	Deputy Grand Master.
" " A. Gordon McWhinney,	London,	Grand Senior Warden.
" " Alex. Gibson,	Peterboro,	" Junior "
" " Rev. J. C. Farthing,	Woodstock,	" Chaplain.
M. W. " Hugh Murray,	Hamilton,	" Treasurer.
R. W. " J. D. Clark,	Ottawa,	" Registrar.
M. W. " J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	" Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge,

Bro. Wm. Tocher, Hamilton, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. Rev. W. H. Jamieson,	D. D., Blenheim,	Erie District, No. 1.
" " Albert W. Parks,	Oil Springs,	St. Clair " 2.
" " John Thornicroft,	Lambeth,	London " 3.
" " D. E. Monroe,	Auburn,	South Huron " 4.
" " James H. Scott,	Kincardine	North Huron " 5.
" " James Smiley,	Paris,	Wilson " 6.
" " Wm. Cowan,	Galt,	Wellington " 7.
" " Wm. Birrell,	Hamilton,	Hamilton " 8.
" " Alvin Orton,	Bradford,	Georgian " 9.
" " T. A. Simpson,	Beamsville,	Niagara " 10.
" " W. H. McFadden,	Brampton,	Toronto West " 11.
" " H. J. Gould,	Uxbridge,	Toronto East " 11a
" " G. H. Linton,	Orono,	Ontario " 12.
" " N. A. Bonesteel,	Frankford,	Pr. Edward " 13.
" " A. Shaw,	Kingston,	Frontenac " 14.
" " A. D. Cameron,	Lancaster,	St. Lawrence " 15.
" " John Robertson,	Ottawa,	Ottawa " 16.
" " J. A. McCrossan,	Rat Portage,	Algoma " 17.
" " G. W. Liddle,	North Bay,	Nipissing " 18.

The Forty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario will be held in the City of Hamilton, on the third Wednesday, being the 17th day of July, A. D. 1901, A. L. 5901.